FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Soviet Union

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INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

ARMS CONTROL & DISARMAMENT

Soviet Space Proposal Sent to UN for Study	AA 1
Shevardnadze Letter to UN [IZVESTIYA 17 Aug]	AA 1
Draft UN Resolution [IZVESTIYA 17 Aug]	AA 2
Soviet Contribution to Peace [IZVESTIYA 17 Aug]	AA 3
U.S. Continues Nuclear Testing in Nevada	AA 6
U.S. SDI Stand Key Issue in Geneva Talks [IZVESTIYA]	AA 6

COMMUNIST RELATIONS

USSR-CEMA Joint Economic Development Stressed	BB 1
USSR Pledges Reaffirmed [Levin]	BB 2

WORLD & REGIONAL ISSUES

Weekly 'International Observers Roundtable' [Bovin, Shishlin, Levin]	CC 1
Nuclear Test Moratorium	CC 1
U.S. Arms Buildup, SDI	CC 4
Asian, Pacific Issues	CC 5
'International Situation: Questions and Answers' [Druzhinin, Tikhomirov]	CC 8

UNITED STATES & CANADA

TASS on Reaffirmation of U.S. South African Policy	A 1
Gerasimov Refutes Speakes' Propaganda Accusation	A 1
PRAVDA: U.S. Hiding Truth About KAL Incident [15 Aug]	A 3

NORTHEAST ASIA

DPRK Celebrates 40th Anniversary of Liberation	C 1
Party, Government Greetings [PRAVDA 15 Aug]	C 1
Kim Il-song Jubilee Message [PRAVDA 15 Aug]	C 2
Aliyev Addresses Meeting	C 3
Kim Il-song Meets With Soviets	C 4
Aliyev Departs Pyongyang	C 4
Vorotnikov Welcomes Aliyev	C 4
Kim Il-song Meetings	C 5
Soviet Naval Vessels Depart	C 5
Vorotnikov Receives Japanese Antiwar Delegation	C 5

SOUTHEAST ASIA & PACIFIC

Shevardnadze Meets With Southeast Asian Envoys E 1
TASS Cites SRV-PRK-Laos Conference Communique E 1
Blazhenkov Comments on SRV Revolution Anniversary E 3
Kaysone Phomvihan To Visit USSR 'End of August' E 3

EASTERN EUROPE

Resumption of Soviet, Bulgarian Ties Recalled F 1
[PRAVDA 14 Aug]
Bulgaria's Todorov, Delegation Visit Lithuania F 1
Sokolov Receives Yugoslav Defense Official F 1
[Belgrade]
DPA: Soviet Solider Reportedly Shot in GDR F 1
Briefs: Bulgarian Consul in Odessa; Youth Agreement Signed F 2

WESTERN EUROPE

Finnish Defense Minister Visits Moscow G 1
FRG Hosts 2-Day SDI Treaty Conference G 1

MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA

PLO's Salah Khalaf Arrives in Moscow 16 Aug H 1
[AFP]
SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA on Lebanon Strife, Amman Accord H 1
[Moseyev 15 Aug]
TASS on U.S. 'Frantic Activity' in Middle East H 2
[Shabayev]

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

S. African President's Durban Speech Criticized J 1
Botha 'Gambling on Force' J 1
Apartheid To Continue [Myakota] J 1
Western Support Condemned [Volkov] J 2
Western Duplicity at UN [Petrov] J 3
U.S. To Blame for Repression [Volkov] J 4
Roelof Botha Remarks 'Absurd' [Kulik] J 5
U.S., UK Opinions Cited J 5
South African Reaction Noted J 6

LATIN AMERICA & CARIBBEAN

Commentator Views 'Cabanas-85' in Honduras K 1
[Levchenko]
Implications of Contadora Group Meeting Observed K 1

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

POLITICAL & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENTS

Gorbachev Visits Crimean Young Pioneers Camp	R 1
Further Coverage	R 1
Politburo Members Attend Aviation Day Display	R 2
AFP: 'Reformer' Gvishiani Appointed to Gosplan	R 3
Supreme Soviet Leaders Discuss Communications	R 3

ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

Coal Supply Official Interviewed on Shortfalls	S 1
Briefs: New Transport Developments;	S 2
Azerbaijan Oil Wells	

SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS

Cosmonauts' Environmental Experiments Reported	U 1
TASS Reports Routine Cosmos-1676 Launched	U 1
6-Point Earthquakes Registered in Turkmenistan	U 2
Briefs: Meteorological Research in Atlantic;	U 2
Observation of Polar Gas Wells	

SOVIET SPACE PROPOSAL SENT TO UN FOR STUDY

Shevardnadze Letter to UN

PM161536 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 Aug 85 Morning Edition p 4

["Letter From the USSR Foreign Minister to the UN Secretary General" -- IZVESTIYA headline; item is carried under general headline: "For the Peaceful Exploration of Outer Space"]

[Text] Esteemed Mr Secretary General,

The Soviet Union proposes that the question "On International Cooperation in the Peaceful Exploration of Outer Space Under Conditions of its Nonmilitarization" be included on the agenda of the 40th UN General Assembly session.

In putting forward this proposal, the Soviet Union proceeds from the premise that mankind is now faced with a choice: Either space will yield increasingly tangible fruits for the improvement of the living conditions of our planet's inhabitants, or else it will be transformed into the source of a lethal new danger for them. The only sensible choice worthy of the space era by the people of earth can and must be made in favor of preventing the militarization of space and preserving it for peaceful activity.

This question has become urgent. It must be resolved before weapons penetrate space. And this danger is intensifying with each day. Specific studies with a view to creating offensive means of destruction in space are already under way. Unless this process is stopped, the arms race in all directions will acquire still greater dimensions and intensity; additionally absorbing new material and intellectual resources and creating insurmountable obstacles to joint peaceful space activity by states.

The Soviet Union proposes that the UN General Assembly with the utmost resolve again call on all states, particularly those possessing a large potential in the field of space, to reach immediate agreement on effective measures to prevent an arms race in outer space, which would create the conditions for broad international cooperation in the study [issledovaniye] and utilization of space for peaceful purposes.

The Soviet Union proposes implementing a set of specific measures promoting the pooling of states' efforts in the peaceful study of space and the utilization of space technology to the benefit of all states, including the provision of all-around assistance in this sphere to the developing countries. It is obvious that the successful solution of this common human task will become possible if accords effectively ensuring the nonmilitarization of outer space are reached.

Motivated by a desire to promote the speediest progress in ensuring the peaceful exploration of space, the Soviet Union submits for consideration by the General Assembly session the document "Basic Guidelines and Principles of International Cooperation in the Peaceful Exploration of Outer Space Under Conditions of its Nonmilitarization (USSR's proposals)."

Please, Mr Secretary General, regard the present letter as the explanatory note envisaged by the UN General Assembly's rules of procedure and circulate it with the attached document "Basic Guidelines and Principles of International Cooperation in the Peaceful Exploration of Outer Space Under Conditions of its Nonmilitarization (USSR's Proposals)" and the draft resolution as official documents of the UN General Assembly.

E. Shevardnadze, USSR foreign minister

Draft UN Resolution

PM161550 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 Aug 85 Morning Edition p 4

["UN General Assembly Draft Resolution 'On International Cooperation in the Peaceful Exploration of Outer Space Under Conditions of its Nonmilitarization'" -- IZVESTIYA headline -- capitalized phrases published in boldface; item is carried under general headline "for the Peaceful Exploration of Outer Space"]

[Text] THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

FULLY RESOLVED to ensure that the exploration and utilization of outer space are fields of extensive, equal, and mutually advantageous international cooperation under peaceful conditions;

RECOGNIZING the urgent need to avert before it is too late an arms race in outer space which would lead to a sharp intensification of the danger of nuclear war, undermine the prospects for arms limitation and reduction as a whole, and create insuperable obstacles to the development of international cooperation in the peaceful exploration of outer space;

GUIDED BY THE DESIRE to ensure that the exploration and utilization of outer space should serve as effectively as possible the scientific, technical, economic, and social progress of all peoples and the resolution of the global problems facing mankind, including the tasks of development and surmounting economic backwardness;

1. CALLS on all states, especially those which have a major potential in the field of space, to do everything for the adoption of effective measures to prevent an arms race in outer space, which would create conditions for extensive international cooperation in the exploration and utilization of space for peaceful purposes;

2. EXPRESSES THE CONVICTION that under the conditions of an effective safeguarding of the nonmilitarization of space, the creation of a world space organization to collate, coordinate, and pool states' efforts in peaceful space activity, including giving help in this field to developing countries, as well as helping to implement the necessary monitoring of the observance of agreements already concluded or to be concluded with a view to preventing an arms race in space would be a major practical step in the cause of peaceful space exploration and the development of international cooperation in this sphere;

3. RESOLVES to convene not later than 1987 an international conference comprised of states with major space potential and other interested countries to comprehensively [vovsey npolnote] examine the question of international cooperation in the peaceful exploration and utilization of outer space under conditions of its nonmilitarization and to coordinate the basic guidelines and principles of such cooperation. The conference would also examine the question of creating a world space organization, bearing in mind that the practical creation of such an organization could only be embarked upon when accords effectively guaranteeing the nonmilitarization of outer space have been reached;

4. INSTITUTES an open [otkrytovo sostava] preparatory committee made up of states with major potential in the field of space in order to convene the international conference;

5. INSTRUCTS the preparatory committee to present a report on the work done and relevant recommendations to the GENERAL ASSEMBLY at its 41st session.

6. INVITES all states to report to the secretary general not later than 1 March 1986 so that any opinions and suggestions concerning the convening of the international conference may be passed to the committee;

7. RESOLVES to include in the preliminary agenda for its 41st session an item headed "On International Cooperation in the Nonmilitarization and Peaceful Exploration of Outer Space."

Soviet Contribution to Peace

PM161621 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 Aug 85 Morning Edition p 4

["Basic Guidelines and Principles of International Cooperation in the Peaceful Exploration of Outer Space Under Conditions of its Nonmilitarization (USSR Proposals)" -- IZVESTIYA headline; item is carried under general heading: "For the Peaceful Exploration of Outer Space"]

[Text] The breakthrough into space and the transition to the practical use of this infinite expanse is one of mankind's outstanding scientific-technical achievements.

In the historically brief period which has elapsed since the Soviet Union launched the world's first artificial earth satellite in 1975 and launched the Vostok spaceship manned by Yuriy Gagarin, the world's first cosmonaut, in 1961, a gigantic leap forward has been taken in the peaceful exploration of space.

Mankind has essentially begun to inhabit near-earth space. Hundreds of satellites are now in orbit and stations where collectives, including international collectives, of scientific and technical specialists succeed each other and work for months are in constant operation. Interplanetary scientific stations are plying the depths of the solar system. With the aid of spacecraft, the Moon, Venus, and Mars are being studied systematically. Man's space horizons are becoming increasingly wide and imposing.

But, right now there is a growing possibility that space may be turned into the source of a terrible danger of war. Plans are being announced and actions are being taken aimed at creating and developing space offensive weapons to destroy targets in space and from space, in the air, and on earth, including creating a wide-scale ABM system with space-based elements.

The implmentation of plans to militarize space would lead to a sharp intensification of the nuclear threat and would deprive the peoples of any hope of the day coming when nuclear weapons would vanish from the face of the earth. Moreover, the arms race would acquire a qualitatively new, even more dangerous, dimension on all salients. Colossal additional resources which could serve the interests of man's peaceful development and the solution of the urgent problems facing mankind would be hurled into its furnace.

Militarization as a grave, incurable ill would affect all areas of space activity and would create insuperable obstacles to the development of international cooperation in the peaceful exploration of outer space.

The peoples and governments of all countries are called on to recognize the dimensions of the task facing mankind and the full extent of their historical responsibility for its implementation.

It is a case of the point in civilization's development when either an era of large-scale exploration and use of space for the benefit of mankind will begin or space will become the source of a mortal threat to mankind.

The Soviet Union is a resolute opponent of rivalry in the race for any armaments, including space armaments. The efforts which it is making right now to prevent the militarization of outer space are a continuation of its consistent, purposeful policy to ensure that space is used for the benefit of mankind. Blazing the first trails into space, back in 1958 the USSR submitted to the United Nations a proposal providing for the prohibition of the use of outer space for military purposes.

Although it was not possible to fundamentally resolve the problem of nonmilitarization of space at that time, important treaties were concluded during the sixties and seventies which considerably limited the possibility of its military use. They included multilateral treaties banning nuclear weapon tests in the atmopshere, in space, and underwater (1963), on principles governing the exploration and use of outer space, including the moon and other celestial bodies (1967), the Soviet-U.S. treaty on the limitation of ABM systems (1972), and a number of other agreements.

These documents created favorable conditions for the first steps toward establishing mutually beneficial cooperation among states in outer space. Now, too, if a reliable barrier is placed in the way of the path of weapons in space, states would have an opportunity to pool their efforts and resources to ensure that the results of all states' activity in space served creation and the prosperity of all peoples inhabiting our planet rather than destruction.

The USSR advocates such cooperation and proposes that all countries and peoples do everything to prevent an arms race in space and work jointly on its peaceful study and exploration for the good of all mankind.

First: The nonmilitarization of space -- that is, states' rejection of the creation (including scientific research work), testing, and deployment of space offensive armaments -- and the pooling of states' efforts for peaceful activity in space would help broaden mutual understanding and cooperation among them and make efficient use of mankind's material and intellectual resources. New impetus would thereby be given to scientific and technical development and truly boundless prospects would be opened up for using achievements in space to promote the peoples' economic and social progress and to resolve the global problems facing mankind, including such urgent ones as eliminating hunger and disease and overcoming the economic backwardness of developing countries, including by giving assistance to them.

Peaceful global cooperation in space research would be organized and would develop on a scale ranging from the exchange of scientific and technical information and simple forms of collaboration to pooling states' available potential for solving major space exploration tasks.

In this event mankind would be capable of implementing the long-term aim of the industrialization of near-earth space in the sense of linking space complexes of various types with states' economies on earth and operating orbital factories and plants set up to produce new materials and industrial products under conditions of high vacuum and weightlessness. People would have the use of inexhaustible storehouses of space, including the resources of heavenly bodies and the energy of the sun.

Second: International cooperation in the peaceful use of outer space could, the USSR believes, be implemented in the following basic directions?

1. Fundamental scientific peace research, including study of the moon and other heavenly bodies and the launching of interplanetary spacecraft for that purpose.

2. The application of the results of space research, experiments, and the use of space technology in areas such as biology; medicine; materials technology; weather forecasting; the study of climate and the environment; global satellite communications systems; the solution of questions of remote-control sounding of the earth to obtain data for geology, agriculture, and oceanic exploration; and assistance in searching for, locating and rescuing people in distress at sea and in the air.

3. Creation and utilization of space technology, including large international scientific orbital stations and manned spacecraft of various types.

Third: Peaceful exploration of outer space should be accompanied by unswerving observance of previous treaties aimed at preventing an arms race in space and also based on the following general principles arising out of the UN Charter;

Nonuse of force or the threat of force and the solution of disputes by peaceful means alone;

Equality, respect for sovereignty, and noninterference in states' internal affairs;

Conscientious cooperation and mutual assistance and due consideration of other states' interests.

Fourth: A world space organization for international cooperation in the peaceful study and use of space under conditions of nonmilitarization could be created to organize and implement cooperation among states.

Such an organization would be called on:

To ensure, under conditions of mutual advantage, access for all states on a nondiscriminatory basis to the results of scientific and technical achievements connected with the study and peaceful exploration of outer space;

To implement international projects connected with pooling efforts and resources in the cause of scientific reserach into outer space and the use of space technology;

To provide comprehensive assistance to developing countries to join the study and use of outer space and to utilize the practical results of such activity to accelerate the economic and social development of those countries in accordance with their needs and without any conditions limiting their sovereignty;

To coordinate on an international scale the activity of other international organizations in the sphere of the peaceful use of outer space;

To assist, if necessary, the exercise of control over the observation of agreements which have already been concluded or will be concluded with a view to averting an arms race in space.

Fifth: The USSR proposes convening a representative international conference, in which states with a major space potential would take part, to fully examine the question of international cooperation in the peaceful exploration of space under conditions of nonmilitarization and to coordinate the basic guidelines and principles of such cooperation.

The conference would also examine the question of creating a world space organization for international cooperation in the peaceful exploration and use of outer space, bearing in mind that it will be possible to proceed with the practical creation of such an organization only when accords have been reached that effectively ensure the nonmilitarization of outer space.

The peaceful exploration of outer space, as people already know from experience, is able to contribute much to the development and improvement of life on earth. The Soviet Union is convinced that outer space, the common property of mankind, must be put to the service of peace, security, and the economic and social progress of all the peoples rather than war. The path to this lies in joint collective efforts by all the states of our planet.

It is in a spirit of goodwill and awareness of its responsibility for the destiny of our planet that the Soviet Union calls on all countries and all the peoples to jointly set about resolving this historic task. Seeking to make its own contribution to the common cause, it submits for examination by the United Nations these proposals on the basis guidelines and principles of international cooperation in the peaceful exploration and use of outer space under the conditions of its nonmilitarization.

U.S. CONTINUES NUCLEAR TESTING IN NEVADA

LD181316 Moscow World Service in English 1100 GMT 18 Aug 85

[Text] The United States has carried out an underground nuclear blast in Nevada on the 17th. By this explosion, foreign observers note, the Reagan administration has confirmed that it refuses to work for curbing the race in nuclear armaments. Washington has demonstrated that it ignores the opinion of broad circles of the world public, which urges the United States to join in the Soviet moratorium.

A secretary of the American Committee in the Memory of Hiroshima and Nagasaki Victims, John Steinbach, says the move has fully revealed the militaristic plans of the White House.

U.S. SDI STAND KEY ISSUE IN GENEVA TALKS

LD181037 Moscow TASS in English 0949 GMT 18 Aug 85

[Text] Moscow, August 18 TASS -- "The aggressive nature of the calculations of those U.S. circles which advocate the implementation of the 'Strategic Defence Initiative' (SDI) is evidenced by the fact that a large-scale anti-missile defence system with space-based elements, which constitutes one of major components of the programme, is intended to neutralize a retaliatory strike of the other side. This means", writes the newspaper IZVESTIYA, analyzing the stands of the sides at the Soviet-U.S. talks in Geneva on nuclear and space arms, "that the SDI has been planned as an addition to the U.S. offensive strategic potential. Its purpose is to ensure a U.S. first-nuclear-strike capability with an eye to impunity.

"It is needless to speak of the illusory nature of those calculations. The Soviet Union, the countries of the socialist community have everything necessary to ensure their security and not to allow Washington to upset in its favour the established paricy in the military-strategic field".

Having recalled the Soviet proposals put forward in Geneva, the newspaper emphasizes:

"The Soviet Union backs up its constructive line in the talks by unilateral actions which are oriented towards inducing the U.S. side, for its part, to take the road of practical measures with a view to ending military rivalry and to strengthening mutual trust".

"On the entire spectrum of problems which have been brought up at the talks in Geneva, the United States up to now sticks to the positions which virtually rule out a possibility of concluding agreements which would meet the earlier coordinated objectives of the talks -- to prevent an arms race in outer space and to end it on earth".

"Take the key matter -- that of space attack weapons", IZVESTIYA goes on. "The USA is unwilling even to start the discussion of measures to ban those systems. The U.S. Administration focusses all its efforts, including those at the talks, on achieving the legalization of its SDI programme. This is virtually the line towards upsetting the treaty on the limitation of ABM systems and together with it the entire process of limiting and reducing strategic arms. What is being offered to the Soviet Union is to come to terms not on preventing a race in the field of space attack weapons but on 'rules' for its conduct. Thereby the U.S. side from the very outset blocks the very possibility of taking effective steps to limit and reduce nuclear arms because it is clear that the race of space attack weapons would doom to failure the efforts to end military rivalry on earth".

"On the threshold of the forthcoming third round of the talks in Geneva, the following question, naturally, cannot but arise: Are there possibilities to overcome the standstill at the talks, the standstill which has been brought about not through the fault of the USSR?

"The work of the delegations in Geneva is, hopefully, far from being doomed to idle running. But essential for that, naturally, is the political will and readiness to achieve constructive solutions from both sides. The Soviet Union has such will", the newspaper writes in conclusion. "The desire of the Soviet side to reach mutually acceptable solutions in Geneva is vividly indicated by the entire set of proposals which the USSR puts forward at the talks".

USSR-CEMA JOINT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRESSED

LD162225 Moscow World Service in English 1610 GMT 16 Aug 85

[Excerpts] The Soviet Union is at present introducing far-reaching economic reforms. The Soviet people take into consideration the interests of the world socialist system and are trying to facilitate the development of all socialist countries. Here is what the director of the Institute of the World Socialist System, Academician Oleg Bogomolov, has told our reporter about this:

[Announcer-read] The Soviet Union is going through a turning point in its social and economic advancement. The April plenary meeting of the Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party devoted to the preparations for the next, 27th, congress of the party, advanced a program for the accelerated scientific and technological development of the nation. The program provides for achieving a new quality in the economy and society and not merely increasing the rate of economic growth. The technological reconstruction is the main leader of the intensification of the economy. As this country gets down to implementing its long-term plans, it takes into account the similar tasks now face other members of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance as well. [sentence as heard] Success in this undertaking depends on how concerted is our cooperation. The Soviet Union is planning profound economic reforms and, while doing so, it takes into account the needs and interests of the fraternal socialist countries.

We want the accelerated social and economic advancement of this country to become an important factor for promoting socialist economic integration and cooperation within the framework of the council. The important, if not decisive, part played by the Soviet Union in this is determined by its vast scientific, technological and industrial potential. But the potential of our partners in the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance is also very considerable indeed. These nations have an industrial output amounting to 50 percent of the Soviet Union's. The fraternal socialist nations have a powerful scientific and technological potential. By pooling our efforts in resolving the crucial scientific and technological problems, we shall beneift all participants in socialist integration.

One of the tasks facing the Soviet Union now is the expansion of its export potential. This goes above all for the branches of the economy upon which scientific and technological progress hinges. The members of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance have mapped out five top priority avenues in their scientific and technological strategy. They are: The broader introduction of electronics; the development of nuclear power engineering; comprehensive mechanization and automation of production, and the introduction of industrial robots on a large scale; the development of new materials and the development of biotechnology.

Considerable progress has already been made by the Soviet Union in all these areas and the good results already achieved will help the other members of the council. Considerable experience in this has already been accumulated. Suffice it to recall the Soviet contribution to the advancement of nuclear power engineering in the member-nations. The nuclear power engineering technologies and know-how developed in this country reliably serve the economies of the other member-countries and help them resolve the problem of increasing the output of electricity. The development of the electronics industry depends to a large extent on the supply of advanced components and integrated circuits. The Soviet Union has also made considerable progress here. This country's achievements in the development of new materials and the production of exceptionally pure compounds have been widely acclaimed. The advancements of the smelting industry, as well as the chemical and electronics industries, require such materials.

The Soviet achievements in this field are part of the common potential of the socialist community. The basic Soviet industries, such as the fuel and energy and metallurgical, will also be developed with the interests of the other socialist countries in mind.

The Soviet Union is also drawing up and implementing large-scale measures to save raw materials and energy and make sure that they are utilized rationally. The Soviet Union honors its obligations for the supplies of these materials to the fraternal nations. The more savings is [as heard] made here in this country the more fuel and energy products it will be able to export to the socialist nations. The member-countries of the council have adopted a joint program for saving fuel and raw materials.

The Soviet Union also attaches great importance to the restructuring of industry. The industries themselves and relations between them are reorganized. As a result labor productivity and economic efficiency will grow. These structural changes are in agreement with the requirements of the present stage of scientific and technological progress. The member-countries of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance complement their economic potentials.

As the economic policies of the socialist countries were concerted for the period ending in the year 2000 stable markets for the products of the socialist countries have been identified in this country. This will no doubt help our partners to assess their export capabilities more accurately and plan their export industries in advance. This will enable them to improve production efficiency and upgrade technological standards.

We are pleased, Academician Bogomolov said in conclusion, that the friends of the Soviet Union, the working people of the socialist countries, approve the Soviet plans for a radical improvement of all aspects of the economy. They feel certain that the improvement of the Soviet economy will facilitate their own economic progress.

USSR Pledges Reaffirmed

LD172041 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 17 Aug 85

[Text] The press of the socialist countries is devoting significant attention to the report that the CPSU Central Committee Politburo has approved measures for ensuring the fulfillment of the Soviet Union's pledges emerging from the decisions of the 40th session of the Council of Mutual Economic Assistance. Commentator Viktor Levin is at the microphone:

[Levin] The deepening of friendship and cooperation with the fraternal socialist countries is a major and priority aspect of the foreign policy activity of our party and state. The synchronization of forces multiplies our possibilities, and the more concerted is our action in all spheres of socialist international relations, the more successfully the socialist community as a whole and each state individually will resolve the tasks in hand. At the present time particular significance has been acquired by the integration of the efforts of the socialist countries in the acceleration of scientific-technical progress. Primary attention was devoted to this question at the summit conference of the CEMA member-countries which took place last June. The task was set of developing a comprehensive program for the scientific-technical progress of the CEMA member-countries until the year 2000. Work on this program is now taking place at full speed, and the CPSU Central Committee Politburo noted at its latest session the particular significance of its completion.

For the more speedily the program is developed, the more rapidly its implementation will begin. And life itself urgently demands that this should take place as quickly as possible. Time waits for no man.

Another very important piece of work is being conducted at the present time: the synchronization of national economic plans. The peculiarity lies in the fact that, for the first time in the practice of the CEMA member-countries, the plans are being synchronized before they have been confirmed by the national organs. This makes it possible to link possibilities and requirements more deeply and in a better-grounded manner, to provide new impetus to the development of cooperation and the deepening of specializations, as well as fundamentally to raise the technical level and quality of the output which is being reciprocally supplied.

In conditions in which the trade turnover between the socialist countries is constantly growing, the significance of observing deadlines for the supply of goods is increasing. For example, it is not enough that the Soviet Union is the main trade partner of the GDR. Our country occupies the same position in its trade with the other fraternal states also. But the GDR is also a major trading partner for us. The total volume of trade already surpasses R15 billion. And there is no need to prove how important regularity is, for any interruption has a harmful effect on our partners.

The CPSU Central Committee Politburo constantly has at the center of its attention the question of cooperation with the CEMA member-countries. As is noted in the report on its proceedings, the appropriate organizations have been instructed to implement the necessary measures to fulfill the accords which were reached at the CEMA session. In practice this relates to our whole national economy. And this means that we are all required to fulfill those accords.

WEEKLY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE'

LD81718 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1130 GMT 18 Aug 85

["International Observers Roundtable" program with political observers Aleksandr Yevgenyevich Bovin and Nikolay Vladimirovich Shishlin, and All-Union Radio commentator Viktor Nikolayevich Levin]

Nuclear Test Moratorium

[Text] [Levin] Hello, esteemed comrades! An event of paramount importance this week was the replies by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev to questions by a TASS correspondent which set out once again the approach by the Soviet Union to the problem of cutting back nuclear explosions and which develop our position on this question. I will recall that on 6 August the Soviet Union unilaterally adopted a moratorium on all nuclear explosions, both military ones and those for peaceful purposes. The moratorium will remain in force until the end of this year, but -- and this is very important to stress -- it will stay in force after that if the United States joins in with it. As you know, the reaction by the United States to our proposal was negative, and the replies by Comrade Gorbachev to the TASS correspondent's questions remove the problems that the United States has been trying to raise.

[Bovin] I think it is worth telling our listeners what the problem of these nuclear tests is in fact about. It is quite a complicated question, but why in fact are nuclear tests carried out? Let's put the question that way, and then it will be clear what people will gain if they do not take place. First of all, without carrying out nuclear tests it is impossible to create new types of nuclear warheads. That's the first, and perhaps the most important thing. Second, without nuclear tests it is impossible to modernize existing nuclear weapons. Third, and no less important, is that the weapons that have already been created and stockpiled, thousands of warheads, must be selectively checked every year for reliability because, strange as it may seem, they can age, and it is by means of nuclear tests that the reliability of what you already have, what you have stockpiled, can be selectively checked and monitored. Finally, the fourth important thing: During such tests, the reliability of military hardware, military equipment, can be checked to see how it stands up to nuclear explosions. Those are the four chief reasons why nuclear tests are necessary.

From this it is clear that if nuclear tests are ended, while of course this will not solve the whole problem of disarmament, it will substantially slow down the pace of the arms race, because it won't be possible to create new weapons, or modernize the old ones, or check out what you already have. So overall it is quite a substantial and important step, and it is no accident that for 30 years now it has been the subject of quite stormy argument; it was in 1955 that the Soviet Union first proposed that nuclear tests be ended.

Perhaps a little history would also be useful here. You probably know, comrades, that quite big steps have been taken in a positive direction in the sphere of ending nuclear tests. The first Moscow treaty of 5 August 1963 put a complete ban on nuclear tests in three mediums: in the atmosphere, under water, and in space. It was quite a big success. After that, in 1974, we concluded a treaty with the Americans to limit nuclear tests -- a so-called threshold treaty, because the upper threshold of nuclear explosions was set at 150 kilotons. Two years later a treaty on peaceful explosions was signed. Unfortunately the Americans, as they quite often do, in practice renounced their signature and did not ratify the treaties of 1974 and 1976. And the last chapter in the story, so to speak, is that in 1977 trilateral talks started between Britain, the United States and the Soviet Union. These were talks on a universal ban on nuclear tests.

[Shishlin] It must be said that the talks took place successfully.

[Bovin] Yes, successfully, and incidentally decisions were made on practically everything -- well, aside from a few technical questions -- and this was what the three countries reported to the Disarmament Committee in 1980. But again, unfortunately, after the 12th round of the talks the Americans went into reverse. A new administration came to power there following the 1980 elections and they took time out, so to speak, for the new administration to think things over. In July 1982 Reagan stated that they would not ratify the treaties,but would agree to talk about making improvements to the procedure of control as it stood. We could not agree to that because everything in that area was already polished enough, and that, for the time being, was where things came to a halt. But what we have now proposed is a very important step that brings us back to the core of the matter and makes the issue, well, virtually ready for solution. There are no technical problems of any sort here: There are only problems of political will. Just that one problem. And incidentally, the Americans have shown by their reaction that they do not have this political will, and Mikhail Sergeyevich, in his replies to the TASS correspondent's questions, very clearly and thoroughly refuted all the arguments that the Americans bring up in the attempt to justify their position.

[Levin] One of those arguemtns is that, as the American side alleges, we have already carried out our series of tests, we have carried out more tests than they have, we have completed our program and that is why we are announcing a moratorium, while the Americans have not yet completed their program. Comrade Gorbachev answered this directly by saying that during this year, up to the announcement of the moratorium, the USSR carried out virtually the same number of nuclear explosions as the United States. But if we speak of all the nuclear explosions that have been carried out to date, then the United States has carried out far more than the USSR.

[Bovin] Since 1945 the Americans have carried out 765 tests, and 765 is a considerably greater number of tests than the Soviet Union has carried out. That figure, incidentally, is an important one because the Americans are always moaning and crying that the Soviet Union is overtaking America in the development and perfection of nuclear weapons. But how can it overtake America if the Americans have carried out a considerably larger number of tests than we have? Plus, of course, there is the much-vaunted U.S. equipment and technology that they like to brag about, but in this case they are for some reason forgetting about this.

[Shishlin] Plus, Aleksandr Yevgenyevich, there are the British nuclear tests and the French nuclear tests.

[Bovin] Yes!

[Shishlin] As far as the British nuclear tests are concerned, the British shared those results with the Americans.

[Bovin] Yes, the British have carried out about 40 nuclear tests, while the French have carried out about 130 nuclear tests. And apparently there was some sort of exchange of information.

[Levin] Yes, and when the Baltimore SUN, for example, an American newspaper, quoted all these figures, it also came to the conclusion that the United States has immeasurably greater opportunities for obtaining this sort of information than the Soviet Union. Quoting specific figures also, to show that the United States itself carried out considerably more tests than the Soviet Union , the Baltimore SUN concludes that the Russians do not have nuclear friends to give them information.

In other words, the disparity is quite obvious. The argument does not stand up to criticism. Nonetheless, it can still be heard now in the statements by U.S. officials.

[Bovin] And take the problem of control, for example. They are always also moaning and crying over the fact that, as they put it, in order to reach agreement on a moratorium, first of all the procedures for 100 percent guaranteed control must be agreed on in order to observe the treaty, particularly, they say, because the Soviet Union -- although they do use little words like apparently, probably or possible -- is violating that threshold treaty limiting the strength of explosions to 150 kilotons.

[Levin] They don't have any concrete data at all.

[Bovin] Yes, but they do say that themselves. So it's a red herring they are bringing up. And as regards control, what exactly is the issue? Well, if the Americans had ratified the 1974 treaty, by this time, by today, in the first place sides already would have exchanged geophysical and geological data on their tests areas, which is incidentally very important and very necessary for control.

In the second place, this would have made it possible to carry out so-called calibration blasts. Such blasts are necessary in order to adjust the equipment for remote seismic measurements; they have to be carried out specially. But since the Americans have not ratified the reaty, these blasts have not taken place. Now, if the Americans had not hindered the drawing up of a tripartite treaty, then under this treaty, first, an international bank of seismic data would have been set up and there would have been an exchange of information on an international level. Second, the treaty would have provided for the possibility of on-site inspections when the circumstances require. Incidentally, this is what the Americans are kicking up a fuss about all the time. In difficult cases provision would have been made and the legal basis established for on-site inspections. But, having torpedoed both agreements, the Americans were responsible for effectively blocking all verification measures that they talk about with such insistence. So I would describe all this as an attempt to lay the blame at someone else's door.

[Shishlin] It must be understood once and for all that the Soviet Union has no less interest than the United States in effective and comprehensive verification of steps being taken to limit and curtail the arms race. But the Americans' use of the problem of verification as an obstacle on the road to any agreement is another matter.

[Bovin] And this is all the more so now that U.S. specialists are writing, in their comments on our proposal, that the relevant equipment and methods have now effectively been developed to provide 100 percent, guaranteed verification of the threshold obligations, and it would be easy to verify whether or not a nuclear blast has taken place. There were doubts about how easy it would be to distinguish nuclear blasts from earthquakes, but American scientists themselves are writing that now they have effectively learned to do just that. So I want to say once again that this is not a problem of technical possibilities or impossibilities. This is an exclusively political problem. The principle of the matter must be resolved. And, unfortunately, the Americans are still avoiding this.

[Levin] In his replies to questions from a TASS correspondent on this matter, Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev stated our country's position in a very clear-cut way.

Unilateral steps to halt nuclear blasts cannot, of course, be the final solution to the problem of the complete and universal halting of nuclear weapons tests. In order to resolve this problem once and for all an international agreement is needed. In addition to the relevant obligations, an agreement would also contain a proper system of verification measures, boty national and international. In short, we back the verification of the halting of nuclear blasts, but we are against a situation in which the continuation of tests in the presence of observers would substitute for the halting of tests.

[Bovin] The Americans have done just this. They invited a group of our experts to the Nevada test site, saying that they should bring with them any equipment they want, set it up there and measure the strength of the American blasts. But what is the whole point? The point is to halt nuclear tests. What is the political point of our people sitting there, of our instruments standing there, and of us recording the modernization of American nuclear weapons? We do not want that at all. The American proposal has been made to divert attention, to switch people's attnetion somehow to a completely different problem. This is the game that is being played.

[Shishlin] The bold Soviet step involving a unilateral moratorium on nuclear tests is, of course, an organic part of the large-scale work being pursued by Soviet foreign policy to improve international relations, and, in particular, to prepare the proper atmosphere for the Soviet-American summit meeting. The difference in the approach of the two sides is simply striking. The United States is attempting to harden its position in every possible way on the eve of the Soviet-American summit meeting, and seems to be stressing these strong-arm elements in its position. Such tactics are indeed the cause of sharp confrontation in the international arena. The Soviet Union, on the other hand, is really seeking practical and absolutely specific and tangible solutions capable of introducing elements of trust -- something in such short supply -- into Soviet-American relations. And the problem of halting nuclear tests has not been chosen at random, because it really is -- and I agree here with my colleagues -- the most simple and easily verifiable step, which requires only political will to be achieved.

U.S. Arms Buildup, SDI

[Bovin] Yes, the step has already been prepared; it has been prepared. A very great deal has been done here, and only a little remains to cover the full distance. But the Americans do not want this. They do not want it for a very simple and comprehensible reason: They want to acquire fresh nuclear weapons, the so-called third-generation weapons. And that is why they have planned a nuclear test program into the nineties. They want to complete this program at all costs. That is the crux of the matter.

[Shishlin] They are directly saying that they want to add the Midgetman missile to their armaments. A new nuclear warhead is necessary for Midgetman. They intend to complete its development, but have not yet done so. Therefore, when President Reagan broached this topic at a press conference, it was no accident that he confused the issue, continually saying exceedingly contradictory things, and later that a whole series of White House representatives kept trying to persuade all and sundry that the United States is not offering a new position, but that their stand is as before the massive military program aimed at achieving military superiority over the Soviet Union.

[Levin] This is a fantasy that is undoubtedly not destined to be realized. We are demonstrating our good will. We are prepared to stop nuclear testing.

We are willing to take radical steps in limiting and reducing armaments. If the United States maintains its present position, however, we will also be forced to take appropriate measures to secure the defense capability of the Soviet Union and our friends and allies. If necessary, we will do it. Our path is not, however, to strengthen confrontation, not a new attempt to engage in a tug-of-war of military confrontation, but rather to consolidate peace. This is the aim of our initiative on a nuclear-blast moratorium, of our pledge not to use nuclear weapons first, and of the decision, already in force, on a moratorium on the deployment of medium-range nuclear weapons.

The constructive search for solutions to the problems, which have become acute, is evidenced by the proposal of the Soviet Union to put them on the agenda of the 40th United Nations. In putting forward this proposal, Comrade Shevardnadze stresses: The Soviet Union is proceeding from the fact that mankind is now faced with a choice, either space will bear ever more tangible fruits for improving the living conditions of our planet's inhabitants, or it will turn into a source of a new fatal danger for them. The only sensible choice worthy of the earth in the space age, can and must be made in favor of preventing the militarization of space and conserving it for peaceful activity. To further this idea, the Soviet Union has put forward its proposals on basic guidelines and principles for international cooperation in the peaceful development of space under the condition of its nonmilitarization. The course of the Soviet Union in smoothing out and normalizing international relations naturally has an effect far beyond Soviet-American relations. These are very important relations because of the strength of the responsibility that lies with the Soviet Union and the United States.

[Bovin] And because of the strength, of course, of the uniqueness of the nuclear missile potentials that American and the Soviet Union possess.

[Levin] Nevertheless, this is really not the only direction of development in international relations. We are trying, trying very actively to strengthen first the friendship and cohesion of socialist countries and to develop good relations with all states of the world.

In connection with this, I would like to direct the attention of our listeners to the visit of a Soviet party and state delegation, led by Comrade Aliyev, to the DPRK.

Asian Pacific Issues

[Shishlin] This visit has been very productive. It was timed to coincide with the 40th anniversary of Korea's liberation, which was a fruit of the joint struggle by the Soviet and Korean peoples. But the visit did not simply summarize the results of 4 decades in the development of Soviet-Korean relations. It also represents a fresh step in developing and deepening multi-faceted Soviet-Korean cooperation. It seems to me that besides the intrinsic value of this visit and of these detailed contacts at a high level with Korean comrades, the visit is being perceived as having a wider international significance, in particular for the whole area of Asia, the Far East and the Pacific Ocean.

[Bovin] In this connection, we are, of course, interested in overcoming the slump in Soviet-Japanese relations. We are interested in a further normalization of Soviet-Chinese relations. We consider that it is necessary to strengthen elements of political stability in the whole of the Pacific Basin. We are ready to do so and we have indeed repeatedly proposed various programs to this end; naturally, we shall work at achieving that goal.

Incidentally, it is very pleasant to note that we are not the only ones to be concerned about this and thinking about this. Take, for instance, a recent fact. You have most likely already read about it, comrades. Quite recently the so-called South Pacific Forum decided to declare the southern party of the Pacific Ocean Basin a nuclear-free zone, a zone free of nuclear weapons.

[Levin] This is a concrete step toward a ban on the access of nuclear weapons to the southern part of the Pacific Ocean. As you know, New Zealand made a corresponding decision despite very strong pressure by the United States.

[Bovin] You mean the decision not to allow ships carrying nuclear weapons or powered by atomic installations to enter its ports.

[Levin] This fits in organically with a nuclear-free zone.

[Bovin] Yes, indeed.

[Levin] And a poster seen by a correspondent for the American news agency AP in Rarotonga characterizes the attitude of the local inhabitants.

[Bovin, laughing] Incidentally, it was nailed to a palm tree.

[Levin, also laughing] Yes, that was so. The poster was very expressive. It said: If they -- that is to say nuclear weapons -- are safe, then deploy them in Washington, store their waste products in Tokyo, and test them in Paris.

[Bovin] This agreement on the creation of a nuclear-free zone in the southern part of the Pacific Ocean has two aspects. On the one hand the 13 states which gathered in Cook Islands -- on Rarotonga, to be precise -- agreed that they themselves will not produce, test, or deploy these nuclear weapons in their own countries. The disposal of radioactive waste in the Pacific Ocean is also prohibited.

But, there are, after all, nuclear powers, too. Therefore a protocol appended to this treaty will ask all nuclear powers -- namely, the Soviet Union, the United States, Britain, France, and China -- to sign this protocol and undertake the commitment to observe the status of the nuclear-free zone in the southern part of the Pacific Ocean.

[Levin] Incidentally, speaking of Asia, it wouldn't hurt to recall that two nuclear powers, the Soviet Union and China, have stated that they will not be the first to use nuclear weapons. This point is very significant for the general situation in Asia and introduces a very important factor for stability.

[Bovin] Incidentally, it is of interest that recently the Indonesian foreign minister said that the question of the creation of a nuclear-free zone in the ASEAN nations' area is now being considered. True, there are no more problems there because of the existence of American bases. Nevertheless, the issue is under consideration, and that is very significant.

[Shishlin] It is doubly and triply significant considering that the threat of the creeping spread of nuclear weapons precisely in this area is fairly real in connection with the things that are going on in Pakistan. The Pakistani authorities, of course, are in general carefully disguising their nuclear program.

It is not fortuitous, however, that very great apprehensions exist in India, Pakistan's neighbor, regarding the intention of the present Pakistani authorities to acquire their own nuclear weapons. Indeed, the political attitudes that are now definitely starting to prevail in this zone are a very important type of political barrier for those striving to break through to the possession of nuclear weapons.

[Bovin] It seems one needs to recall that one nuclear-free zone, namely Latin America, does already exist. In accordance with a treaty that was signed in 1967, the deployment of nuclear weapons is prohibited there. Incidentally, the nuclear powers, including the Americans and us, agreed to this and signed the relevant protocol. Then there have been plans for the creation of nuclear-free zones in the Balkans, northern Europe, and the Mediterranean area.

[Levin] If one returns to Asia, one ought to note that the states of the region have been putting forward a whole number of different proposals aimed at ensuring security in Asia. Thus a number of nonaligned countries proposed that the Indian Ocean be transformed into a zone of peace. The Mongolian People's Republic put forward an initiative for the conclusion of a convention on mutual nonaggression and nonuse of force between the state of Asia and the Pacific area. We have proposed that the question of confidence-building and security measures in the Far East be discussed. We have also proposed quite recently that the question of a comprehensive approach to the problem of security in Asia be raised and that the efforts of Asian states be united in this direction. Indeed, we think that there may even be sense in exchanging views and thinking about the convening of an all-Asian conference after the pattern of the all-European conference on security and cooperation.

[Shishlin] The various initiatives by the DPRK aimed at a peaceful political settlement of the whole Korean question are also worth mentioning.

[Levin] So there are a great many problems confronting the world, and it is very important to note that the Soviet Union is pursuing a policy of peace. It is doing so energetically, steadfastly, and consistently. Sometimes the Americans reproach us for allegedly making propaganda gestures. This applies both to our initiative in introducing a unilateral moratorium on nuclear explosions and also to our proposal that the United States join this moratorium. I think, however, that the French L'HUMANITE remarked quite reasonably that, if Washington considers these to be propaganda moves, then let Washington make similar propaganda moves. The Soviet Union's present energetic and very mobile foreign policy is making the United States attempt to manuever itself out of the situation. In his replies to the TASS correspondent, Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev noted that one gets the impression that the United States is now concerned, as it were, with rejecting as adroitly as possible our initiative on introducing a moratorium on nuclear explosions. But facts remain facts. Our policy is energetic and mobile. We do not want to drive the Americans into a corner. We want constructive actions. We want a constructive contribution to consolidating peace. We are doing this consistently and steadfastly together with our friends and our allies. Although the situation is complex, we believe in the possibility of its being evened out.

Here our broadcast comes to a close. Thank you, esteemed comrades, for your attention. All the best to you!

'INTERNATIONAL SITUATION -- QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS'

LD161728 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0930 GMT 16 Aug 85

["International Situation -- Questions and Answers" program presented by Moscow Radio commentator Konstantin Patsyuk with Aleksandr Druzhinin, Moscow Radio political observer; Vladimir Tikhomirov, head of the International Regional Problems of Asia and North Africa section of the USSR Academy of Sciences Institute of Oriental Studies]

[Excerpts] Aleksandr Druzhinin looks at the impact of the Soviet nuclear moratorium initiative and other peace proposals on world public opinion. Many listeners have asked about the United States' stance regarding the Soviet proposals.

[Begin Druzhinin recording] "Well, let's start by looking at how Washington has reacted to our country's decision to unilaterally halt all nuclear explosions. To simply say that they reject the new Soviet peace initiatives would mean not to expose the tricks to which they resort in the official circles of U.S. policy in order to hoodwink the international public. Indeed, just look at the arguments now being put forward in the White House and State Department to somehow justify in the eyes of the people America's negative stance. They are saying, for example, that the United States requires continuation of nuclear weapons tests in order, they say, to eliminate a certain lagging behind in the field of nuclear armaments from the Soviet Union, although it is well known that far more nuclear tests have been carried out in the United States than in our country. They claim that an effective monitoring system of a moratorium on nuclear explosions somehow does not exist.

So what do they propose? Washington invites Soviet specialists to visit the American testing ground in the state of Nevada to monitor the extent of the explosions carried out there. But who needs that kind of monitoring? There already exist today sufficiently effective scientific-technical means of discovering any explosion in Nevada or anywhere else without encroaching beyond the border of the Soviet Union.

It therefore follows that the United States simply requires the presence of Soviet specialists at the Nevada testing grounds to somehow legitimize the continuation of American nuclear tests. Finally, they are stating in Washington that the question of nuclear tests should be resolved not by moratoriums but at the Geneva talks. But surely the United States had the same chance before? Surely this question was raised several years ago at the talks between the United States, the Soviet Union, and Britain? Surely no one has prevented Washington from making the question of ending nuclear weapons tests a subject of the Geneva talks? The whole crux of the matter is that at Geneva and at other international forums the United States has been openly sabotaging this problem. Why? Because the purpose of the U.S. Administration remains that of achieving military superiority over the Soviet Union, and to do so they need the nuclear arms race and they need nuclear tests, too, which help to build up arsenals of the latest weapons. And precisely what the United States does not want is an end to nuclear tests or a reliable monitoring system, stressed Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev in his replies to questions by a TASS correspondent. No other conclusion can be drawn.

Washington is also conducting a policy of sabotage and obstruction in relation to other Soviet proposals which we have already mentioned today. Peace through strength, disarmament through building-up arms -- these statements are often being made by representatives of the Reagan administration.

But really they do not even contemplate disarmament, for military strength is the cornerstone of American policy which feeds the illusory hope that in this way the United States will succeed in establishing their own style of global order. [end recording]

Vladimir Dimitriyevich Tikhomirov, head of the section of International Regional Problems of Asia and North Africa of the USSR Academy of Sciences' Institute of Oriental Studies, describes the significance of the 40th anniversary of the liberation of Korea from Japanese militarism.

[Begin Tikhomirov recording] The efforts of the United States are now directed towards forming a military-political alliance Washington-Tokyo-Seoul and to include it in a grouping of countries of the Pacific community which is being set up to form an important integral part of the United States'global imperialist strategy.

Our country consistently supports the course of the DPRK toward a peaceful settlement of the situation on the Korean peninsula and the unification of the homeland on a democratic basis. It welcomes the economic and other contacts between both parts of Korea, which began this year, and approves Pyongyang's latest proposal for an interparliamentary meeting and adoption of a declaration on nonaggression between the north and south.

TASS ON REAFFIRMATION OF U.S. SOUTH AFRICAN POLICY

LD191044 Moscow TASS in English 1007 GMT 19 Aug 85

[Text] New York, August 19 TASS -- Despite the protests of broad international and American public, the Reagan administration further intends to give all-round assistance to the South African racists and prevent economic sanctions against Pretoria. This stand of the White House has been reaffirmed on American television by Robert McFarlane, assistant to the President for national security affairs, and Chester Crocker, assistant secretary for African affairs, the main expert of the U.S. Administration on African problems.

President Reagan will remain committed to the policy of "constructive engagement", said McFarlane. He reaffirmed the intention of the U.S. President to veto any bill of the Congress providing for sanctions against the Republic of South Africa. In doing so, Robert McFarlane admitted that Reagan first and foremost opposes the demands that the U.S. corporations withdraw their investments from the Republic of South Africa.

The United States finances apartheid, said member of the House of Representatives William Gray (Democrat, Pennsylvania), speaking on U.S. television. Over the past four years the policy of "constructive engagement" has resulted in a strengthening of social injustice, oppression and mass murders of black Africans in the Republic of South Africa, where the number of victims in recent months has topped 600.

This has also resulted in the United States winning a reputation in the world as an assistant of apartheid, the congressman pointed out. All talk that the continuation by Washington of its old policy will result in the repudiation of racial segregation by the South African rulers is nonsensical. This is clearly seen from the "manifesto" of Pieter Botha, head of the white minority government, who said that the apartheid policy will be carried on, William Gray pointed out. The American congressman also admitted that the measures against the Republic of South Africa, which are now being examined at the U.S. Congress, were the "minimum ones", but the administration rejects even them. Washington has wide recourse to sanctions of all kinds as a means of bringing pressure to bear against 15 countries of the world, W. Gray pointed out. Yet the U.S. President has never pronounced the name of Nelson Mandela, who languishes in a prison cell in the Republic of South Africa, and not called for solidarity with the struggle waged by the people of the Republic of South Africa against the repressive Pretoria regime.

GERASIMOV REFUTES SPEAKES' PROPAGANDA ACCUSATION

LD181919 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1400 GMT 18 Aug 85

[From the "International Panorama" program presented by APN political observer Gennadiy Gerasimov]

[Excerpts] August is regarded as a holiday month, when international affairs quiet down due to the coinciding holidays of politicians. Nonetheless, White House spokesman Larry Speakes announced, or rather, complained on Tuesday that, in his words, the Soviets have launched a genuine public relations offensive and are pursuing their strategy in a well-thought-out and extremely thorough way. Speakes was asked by journalists why they should regard Soviet statements as propaganda and American statements as gospel truth. Speaks answer was that the American views are supported by the facts.

Let us test the truth of this in one example: the American reaction to the well-meaning and exemplary Soviet decision to cease nuclear explosions. The American President was informed of this in good time and invited to act likewise. In other words, America was given time in advance to think out its response. Washington collected half a dozen arguments and all of them, all the American arugments, are full of holes. For example, the claim that our step is a propaganda trick: Our prior notification to the American side removed any element of propaganda surprise. Also, if it is merely a trick, then why should America not repeat it and thereby neutralize it. Or again, they claim that we have completed a series of tests and that we are now having a rest in any case. In fact, we have broken off our test program and the same Speakes, correcting his boss somewhat, admitted that the Russians have perhaps not completed their series of tests. Well, if one is not sure of something, one should not say it. He also complained that America is behind in the area of nuclear explosions. The figures tell a different story: We have carried out one-third fewer tests.

The other arguments are just as dishonest and fictional. The American newspaper Baltimore SUN recently wrote in this connection that the arguments against a test ban are so unconvincing that one wonders if they really exist at all. Judging by the views of the Baltimore SUN and many other newspapers as well, Speakes' statement about American arguments allegedly standing up to the facts reflects an empty self-assurance. Nor do the ruses they have invented stand up to criticism, in spite of not being invented in haste. There was plenty of time. The question is not a new one and they even received prior notification. Washington has no arguments against a test ban.

Nuclear tests are simply essential for "Rambo" fans in the Pentagon. First, in order to perfect the existing nuclear arsenal and second, to implement the "star wars" plans. In these plans, great hopes are being placed on the so-called X-ray laser with nuclear excitation. By this unusual word "excitation," they mean a nuclear explosion. In addition, American experts predict that work on this laser will require testing in space. In other words, we are faced with the prospect of America violating the 1963 Moscow treaty banning tests in the atmosphere, under water, and in space.

Our country is opposing this nuclear Rambomania with reason and common sense. The regular sessin of the UN General Assembly opens in September. It is not merely a regular session, but a jubilee session -- the United Nations is 40 years old -- and the Soviet Union proposes adding to the agenda the question of international cooperation in the peaceful exploration of space under the condition of its nonmilitarization.

Perhaps the White House spokesman will again complain about a Soviet offensive, but this is an offensive not on America, but on the threat of war, and we are inviting America to join us rather than being on the other side of the front line.

Apart from everything else, Washington justifies its "star wars" plans by their beneficial side effects for the civilian sector and for the national economy in general. Research in this area is the drive belt of the engine of scientific and technical progress as a whole. One of the reasons given for the Eureka Project -- the amalgamation of the Western European countries' scientific and technical research -- is the need to keep up with the United States in the most advanced areas of science and technology, once the United States had decided to go ahead with "star wars".

PRAVDA: U.S. HIDING TRUTH ABOUT KAL INCIDENT

PM161126 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Aug 85 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Concealing the Truth"]

[Text] New York, 14 Aug -- The Reagan administration intends to conceal the truth about the criminal action of the U.S. special services which, on the night of 1 September 1983, organized the provocative incursion into the Soviet Union's airspace by a South Korean airliner. This is proved convincingly by materials published by the magazine NATION.

"The South Korean airliner's crew could not have flown over the Kamchatka Peninsula and the island of Sakhalin by accident or in ignorance," writes Yale University scientist David Pearson and former U.S. diplomat John Keppel in one of the articles carried in the magazine.

After analyzing the recorded readings of the radar that was tracking the flights over the northeast sector of the Pacific, they established that the South Korean airliner deviated from its course "virtually immediately after takeoff" from Anchorage (Alaska). The article says that the airliner then turned north in the direction of Soviet territory. According to the investigators, it should have been detected without fail by U.S. Air Force radar located on the Alaska coast. It is noteworthy that recently the recorded readings of this radar were destroyed, although -- as D. Pearson and J. Keppel stress -- "usually all information relating to aviation accidents is preserved."

Based on the analysis of the recordings of Japanese tracking stations recently published in Tokyo, D. Pearson and J. Keppel also established that, while it was already over Sakhalin, the South Korean Boeing undertook a number of maneuvers usually carried out by aircraft on espionage missions. Thus, they point out, "it changed altitude and speed without giving prior warning of this to the air traffic controllers in Tokyo, as the international rules require." What is more, the Boeing's crew radioed Tokyo about a change in flight altitude which in fact had not occurred. This points to the fact, the authors note, that the pilots -- knowing that their plane was in the Sakhalin area and had been detected by the Soviet air defense facilities -- "were trying to get out and were deliberately deluding the air traffic controllers in Tokyo."

"All these facts," the article points out, "blatantly contradict the official version of what happened, as presented by the Reagan administration."

The irrefutable fact that the South Korean airliner intruded into the airspace on an espionage mission is also confirmed by the remarks made by relatives of the dead crew members which are cited in the article. The widow of crew commander (Chon Ben Ina), D. Pearson and J. Keppel point out, reported that "before the flight her husband had warned her of a forthcoming particularly dangerous mission."

The facts collected by D. Pearson, J. Keppel, and journalist D. (Korn), NATION stresses in an editorial, "increase doubts about the trustworthiness of the official U.S. version of the events which occurred on the night of 31 August-1 September 1983."

In this connection, the magazine calls on the U.S. Congress to conduct a thorough investigation into the incident.

DPRK CELEBRATES 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF LIBERATION

Party, Government Greetings

PM161144 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Aug 85 First Edition p 1

[Text] To Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Workers Party of Korea [WPK] Central Committee and president of the DPRK;

To Comrade Kang Song-san, premier of the DPRK Administration Council:

The CPSU Central Committee, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and USSR Council of Ministers send you, the WPK Central Committee, the DPRK Central People's Committee, the DPRK Administration Council, and the entire Korean people fraternal greetings and best wishes on the glorious jubilee, the 40th anniversary of Korea's liberation.

For many decades the best sons and daughters of the Korean people fought against the domination of the Japanese colonizers. The long-awaited liberation came to the ancient land of Korea on the historic day of 15 August 1945, when the heroic Soviet Army routed the main strike force of militarist Japan, the million-strong Kwangtung Army. An extensive path of democratic and social transformations opened up for the Korean people and favorable prospects appeared for building a new life.

The years since liberation have been marked by striking socioeconomic achievements by the DPRK's working people under the leadership of their tried and tested vanguard, the WPK. Today, People's Korea is an industrial and agrarian state where industry, agriculture, science, and culture are developing successfully and the people's prosperity is growing. The DPRK's role in the world arena and in resolving the complex problems of the day is becoming increasingly notable.

Over the past 40 years, the Soviet Union has always stood alongside the Korean people both in peacetime and during the struggle against the imperialist aggressors. The Soviet people are sincerely gratified by the Korean working people's striking successes in building a socialist society and are always ready to fraternally share their experience and knowledge with their Korean friends.

The Soviet Union notes with satisfaction that Soviet-Korean relations based on the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism are strengthening and deepening with every passing day and are being filled with more and more new content in line with the friendship, cooperation, and mutual aid treaty between the USSR and the DPRK. The visit to the Soviet Union by Comrade Kim Il-song and the accords reached at the meeting between our countries' leaders for the good of the Soviet and Korean peoples and in the interests of the cause of peace and socialism are of particular importance.

In the present-day international situation, when imperialism's aggressive schemes are again exacerbating tension, including in the Asia and Pacific region, the unity and cohesion of the socialist states and their cooperation in defending peace and the peoples' security are more important than ever.

The USSR highly assesses and supports in every possible way the peace initiatives of the WPK and the DPRK Government aimed at achieving the peaceful unification of the country without outside interference and the withdrawal of all foreign troops from South Korea and ensuring peace and security on the Korean peninsula. The Soviet Union consistently advocates a quest for constructive solutions to the urgent problems of security in Asia and is actively making its own contribution to this common cause of the Asian peoples.

We wish you and all DPRK working people new successes in socialist building, in the intensive work to implement the decisions of the Sixth WPK Congress, and in the struggle for the country's peaceful democratic unification.

May the traditional friendship and comradely cooperation between the CPSU and the WPK, the USSR and the DPRK, and the Soviet and Korean peoples strengthen and prosper!

The CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, the USSR Council of Ministers.

Kim Il-song Jubilee Message

PM161304 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Aug 85 First Edition p 1

[Text] To Comrade Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

To Comrade Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium:

On behalf of the WPK Central Committee, the DPRK Government, and the Korean people and on my own account I send you and, through you, the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Government, and the Soviet people warm fraternal greetings on the portentous day, the 40th anniversary of our motherland's liberation.

The liberation of our motherland from the colonial domination of Japanese imperialism was an historic victory won by our people together with the valiant Soviet Army and an epoch-making event that opened a new era in our people's struggle for autonomy [samostoyatelnost], independence, and socialism.

In the 40 years since our motherland's liberation our people, under the leadership of our party, wrecking the continual aggressive schemes of U.S. imperialism and its minions and courageously overcoming innumerable difficulties and obstacles, have carried out a democratic and socialist revolution and implemented the course of building socialism -- thereby radically transforming the country's entire makeup -- and today continue to wage a dogged struggle for the independent peaceful unification of the motherland and the total victory of socialism.

The 15 August liberation, which our people won along with the Soviet Army, was a new landmark in the development of friendly Korean-Soviet relations. The Soviet people gave our people material aid and moral support during the fatherland liberation war and during the postwar revival and construction. Today they continue to give active support and show solidarity with our people's struggle to build socialism and unite the motherland.

Our people are grateful for this and will never forget the Soviet Union's role as liberator and its aid.

Relations of Korean-Soviet friendship are genuine relations of cooperation between class brothers based on the firm foundations of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism and are indissoluble allied relations between revolutionary comrades in arms which have steadily developed and strengthened in the joint struggle against imperialism and for the triumph of the great cause of peace, socialism, and communism.

We make a very high assessment of these traditional relations of friendship and cooperation between our parties, countries, and peoples and are confident that they will continue to steadily expand and grow stronger on the basis of the treaty on friendship, cooperation, and mutual aid between the DPRK and the USSR in the spirit of the accords achieved during the meetings and talks between our countries' leaders last year in Moscow.

May I take this opportunity to wholeheartedly wish you and the fraternal Soviet people new successes in the work to improve developed socialism and prepare for the 27th CPSU Congress in accordance with the decisions of recent CPSU Central Committee plenums, in the struggle against imperialism, and in defense of peace and security worldwide.

Kim Il-song, general secretary of the WPK Central Committee and DPRK president.

Aliyev Addresses Meeting

LD152201 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 15 Aug 85

[From the "Vremya" newscast; report by special correspondent Valeriy Korzin in Pyongyang]

[Text] The Democratic People's Republic of Korea is marking the 40th anniversary of liberation from Japanese colonial oppression today. Our special correspondent, Valeriy Korzin, reports from Pyongyang:

[Korzin] The Soviet and DPRK state flags flutter in the streets and squares of Pyongyang, symbolizing the links between the countries' peoples which are growing stronger year by year. Soviet troops routed the million-strong Kwangtung Army of Japanese militarists in August 1945. A year later, on Moran-Bong, the most beautiful hill in Pyongyang, a monument was erected. It was called (?khebandkhab), the monument to liberation. On the eve of the 40th anniversary of liberation, it was reconstructed and renovated and was made several meters higher. However, the bronze-cast inscriptions expressing the Korean peoples' feelings of gratitude remain unchanged on its granite slabs. Thousands and tens of thousands of city people came together here to witness the rebirth of the liberation monument. With them were guests from the Soviet Union, veterans of the last war, and representatives of sister cities. The ceremonial meeting then started. Speaking at the meeting, Geydar Aliyevich Aliyev, head of the Soviet party and state delegation, said:

[Begin Aliyev video recording] Here, at the majestic liberation monument, erected in honor of those who fought selflessly for freedom and a bright future, we express our firm conviction that the USSR and the DPRK will continue to strengthen the all-round cooperation and interaction between our parties, states, and peoples and develop the traditional relations of comradeship and friendship which have deep, unshakeable historic roots, and will resolutely and consistently uphold our common sense of socialism and peace. [end video recording]

[Korzin] The USSR party and state delegation and other Soviet delegations taking part in the celebrations laid wreaths at the monument. Wreaths were laid from the WPK Central Committee and from DPRK state and public organizations. There was a military parade in Pyongyang's central square. The socialist DPRK threatens no one. It consistently comes out in favor of a peaceful solution to all international questions. But while there is a 40,000-strong U.S. military grouping stationed in the south of the peninsula, and while maneuvers are being held there regularly and war hysteria is being whipped up, the powder must be kept dry and unity must be strengthened.

The word "cohesion" is written in Russian on the stands of Pyongyang stadium. The festivity held here today turned into a political demonstration, a demonstration of the friendship between the peoples of the Soviet Union and the DPRK.

The Soviet party and state delegation laid a wreath at the monument to the Chinese People's volunteers killed in the battles to repel U.S. imperialism's aggression in Korea from 1950 to 1953. On the same day, Kim Il-song held a ceremonial reception to mark the 40th anniversary of Korea's liberation. It was attended by the Soviet party and state delegation headed by Comrade Aliyev and other Soviet delegations taking part in the celebrations.

Kim Il-song Meets With Soviets

LD161632 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 16 Aug 85

[Text] Comrade Aliyev, the head of the Soviet party and state delegation taking part in the celebrations marking the 40th anniversary of Korea's liberation, gave a reception today in Pyongyang. Those present included Kim Il-song, general secretary of the WPK Central Committee and president of the DPRK; Kim Chong-il, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the WPK Central Committee; and other leaders of the republic.

Today, Kim Il-song also received the Soviet military delegation headed by Marshal of the Soviet Union Petrov, CPSU Central Committee member and first deputy minister of defense of the USSR. A conversation took place which passed in a warm and friendly atmosphere.

Aliyev Departs Pyongyang

LD170155 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0425 GMT 17 Aug 85

[Text] Pyongyang, 17 Aug (TASS) -- The Soviet party and government delegation led by Geydar Aliyev, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, left here for home today. The delegation had been taking part in the celebrations of the 40th anniversary of the liberation of Korea at the invitation of the WPK Central Committee and the Central People's Committee of the DPRK. The delegation was seen off at the airport by Kang Song-san, member of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the WPK and premier of the Administrative Council of the DPRK, and other officials.

Vorotnikov Welcomes Aliyev

LD171227 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1132 GMT 17 Aug 85

[Text] Moscow, 17 Aug (TASS) -- A Soviet party and state delegation, headed by Geydar Aliyev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, returned to Moscow from Pyongyang today. The delegation had been taking part in celebrations marking the 40th anniversary of the liberation of Korea at the invitation of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and the Central People's Committee of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

At the airport the delegation was met by Vitaliy Vorotnikov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers, and other officials. [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1200 GMT on 17 August, in a shorter report, states that Aliyev's delegation "was met at the airport by Comrade Vorotnikov, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee, Chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers; Comrade Orlov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Presidium, and other officials."]

Kim Il-song Meetings

LD181417 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1030 GMT 18 Aug 85

[Text] Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Korean Workers' Party, president of the DPRK, today received delegations of the Novosibirsk Obkom led by Comrade Filatov, member of the CPSU Central Committee, first secretary of the Obkom; the Maritime Kraykom, led by Comrade Gagarov, first secretary of the kraykom; and of the Khabarovsk Gorkom, led by Comrade (Bogdanov), first secretary of the gorkom, which are in Pyongyang in connection with celebrations to mark the 40th anniversary of the liberation of Korea. During the meeting, questions of cooperation between the local party organizations of the two countries were touched on. The conversations took place in a warm and friendly atmosphere.

Soviet Naval Vessels Depart

LD171501 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1352 GMT 17 Aug 85

[Text] Pyongyang, 17 Aug (TASS) -- The official friendly visit to the port of Wonsan on the eastern seaboard of the DPRK by a detachment of Soviet naval vessels, including the large antisubmarine vessel the Tallin, the escort vessels the Poryvistyy and the Ryanyy under the command of Vice Admiral Nikolay Yasakov, first deputy commander of the Pacific Fleet, has ended. The detachment of Soviet naval vessels left the port of Wonsan today.

VOROTNIKOV RECEIVES JAPANESE ANTIWAR DELEGATION

LD161547 Moscow TASS in English 1502 GMT 16 Aug 85

[Text] Moscow, August 16 TASS -- Vitaliy Vorotnikov, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Russian Federation, today received leaders of the Japanese delegation to the fourth anti-war meeting of representatives of the Soviet and Japanese public, members of Japanese Parliament Munenori Akagi and Tokuma Utsunomiya.

During the conversation that passed in a friendly atmosphere there was an exchange of opinions on questions related to the most topical tasks of the struggle for peace and disarmament. Vitaliy Vorotnikov called attention of the Japanese peace champions to the major foreign policy initiatives of the Soviet Union aimed at the easing of international tension, at averting nuclear threat.

It was stressed in this connection that the Soviet Union's unilateral moratorium on any nuclear explosions has extreme importance as an honest step creating a real basis for reaching agreement on comprehensive nuclear test ban, for advancing toward the elimination of nuclear weapons altogether.

The Japanese side highly assessed the new Soviet peace initiative and proclaimed the resolve of the peace forces of Japan to take vigorous efforts to promote the consolidation of the mainstays of peace, to wage the struggle to curb the arms race.

When questions of bilateral ties were discussed, the Japanese guests proclaimed the support for the Soviet Union's efforts aimed at ensuring that Soviet-Japanese relations develop steadily in the spirit of goodneighbourliness, mutually advantageous cooperation and trust.

SHEVARDNADZE MEETS WITH SOUTHEAST ASIAN ENVOYS

LD161822 Moscow TASS in English 1801 GMT 16 Aug 85

[Text] Moscow, August 16 TASS -- Member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze today received Ambassador of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to the USSR Dinh Nho Liem, Ambassador of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to the USSR Thongsavat Khaikhamphithoun and Charge d'Affaires of the People's Republic of Kampuchea in the USSR Ouch Borith.

On the instruction of the governments of their countries, the diplomatic representatives informed the USSR foreign minister about the results of the eleventh conference of foreign ministers of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, the Lao People's Democratic Republic and the People's Republic of Kampuchea that was held in Phnom Penh on August 15-16 of this year.

The consistent line of the three countries of Indochina at the normalisation of the situation in Southeast Asia has been confirmed at the conference. They suggest to ASEAN member-countries to give up confrontation and start a dialogue which in the long run must lead to the creation of a zone of peace, goodneighbourliness and cooperation in Southeast Asia. The deadline for the conclusion of the withdrawal of units of Vietnamese volunteers from Kampuchea has been given. The readiness of the countries of Indochina to take part in an international conference for the solution of the problems of peace and security in southeast Asia has been emphasized.

The communique of the conference highly assesses the Soviet Union's foreign policy course aimed at removing the threat of nuclear war, consolidating peace and security in Asia and throughout the world. Complete support has been expressed for the Soviet Union's decision to stop unilaterally any nuclear explosions from August 6 of this year, the decision announced by the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, Mikhail Gorbachev.

Eduard Shevardnadze confirmed that the principled course of the USSR at the settlement of the problems of Southeast Asia through talks remains invariable, expressed complete solidarity with the efforts of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, the Lao People's Democratic Republic and the People's Republic of Kampuchea aimed at improving the situation and creating the climate of confidence and cooperation in Southeast Asia. The peace proposals approved by the conference merit serious attention of all who show genuine concern for vital interests of peoples, the destinies of peace in the region.

The conversation passed in a friendly and cordial atmosphere.

TASS CITES SRV-PRK LAOS CONFERENCE COMMUNIQUE

LD171357 Moscow TASS in English 1334 GMT 17 Aug 85

[Text] Phnom Penh, August 17 TASS -- The eleventh conference of foreign ministers of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, and the Lao People's Democratic Republic ended here. The communique was issued on the results of the conference. It points out that the sides noted important successes of the three fraternal peoples of the states of Indochina in the defence of an revolutionary construction in their countries.

It is noted in the document that in view of the all-round progress achieved by the People's Republic of Kampuchea in the past six years, Kampuchea and Vietnam decided to continue stage-by-stage withdrawal of units of Vietnamese volunteers from the People's Republic of Kampuchea so as to complete the withdrawal by 1990. At the same time, if the return of Vietnamese troops home is taken advantage of for undermining security in the region, both countries reserve the right to take counter-measures.

The consistent line of the three countries of Indochina at the normalisation of the situation in South-East Asia was confirmed at the conference. The participants in the conference noted that the tendency toward a dialogue continues strengthening in South-East Asia despite obstacles placed by the reactionary circles. The proposals advanced last January by the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, the Lao People's Democratic Republic and the People's Republic of Kampuchea present a reliable base for a constructive dialogue aimed at achieving political solution of problems of the region. Having studied the proposal of ASEAN countries about talks on the question of the normalisation of the situation around Kampuchea, the ministers declared that of special importance is the question of who precisely will take part in them. The People's Republic of Kampuchea, on its part, is prepared to start talks with different foreign Khmer groupings provided that the Pol Pot clique is removed from the political scene, says the communique. This question might become the subject for discussion between the countries of ASEAN and Indochina.

The coming meeting of foreign ministers of Vietnam and Indonesia offers an opportunity to discuss problems of South-East Asia that require solution.

The sides confirmed their principled line aimed at the normalisation of relations with China, pointed to the need of resuming talks between the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the People's Republic of China.

The peoples of Indochina, the communique says, are sincerely striving for the establishment of good-neighbourly relations with Thailand. The People's Republic of Kampuchea and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam support the proposal of the Lao People's Democratic Republic for the holding of inter-government talks between Laos and Thailand. The three countries of Indochina or each of them in particular are prepared to start talks and conclude an agreement with Thailand on the basis of non-interference in internal affairs, mutual respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity within the existing frontiers, peaceful coexistence, refusal to provide their territory for subversive actions against the other side.

The document expresses the confidence that if all the sides concerned exert efforts to establish a dialogue, favourable conditions will be created for concluding an agreement on the settlement of all the problems existing in the region, for the creation of a zone of peace, good-neighbourliness and cooperation in South-East Asia. The readiness of the countries of Indochina to take part in an international conference for the solution of the problems of peace and security in the South-East Asia is confirmed.

The communique of the conference highly assessed the foreign policy course of the USSR aimed at removing the threat of nuclear war, consolidating peace and security in Asia and the whole world. Complete support was expressed for the Soviet Union's decision to stop unilaterally all nuclear explosions from August 6 of this year, the decision announced by the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev.

BLAZHENKOV COMMENTS ON SRV REVOLUTION ANNIVERSARY

LD181857 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 18 Aug 85

[Text] Tomorrow the Vietnamese people will celebrate the 40th anniversary of the August revolution. The commentary of the latest news with Stanislav Blazhenkov at the microphone:

This day will remain forever in the memory of the Vietnamese people. On 19 August, 1945 the people's uprising won a victory in Hanoi, which had a determining significance for the whole country. The revolution swept away the puppet, fuedal monarchy with its Japanese and French patrons, and forever finished the dominion of imperialism on Vietnam soil. The defeat of the Japanese Kwangtung Army by the Armed Forces of the Soviet Union assisted in the success of the August revolution.

Having won freedom and having defended the gains of the revolution during 30 years of war against foreign invaders, the first state of workers and peasants in Southeast Asia confidently follows the chosen way of building a new life. The courage of the Vietnamese communists, who carried out the August revolution, to this day inspires the young generation of Vietnam to new achievements.

The working people of the SRV are successfully solving the great and difficult tasks that were put by the 5th Congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV]. In this creative work, the all-round cooperation of the Republic with the Soviet Union and other countries of the socialist community, the coordination of the plans of the national economy, and the further improvements in the whole complex of economic links on a long-term base are of paramount significance. As the newspaper NHAN DAN pointed out on its leading article, the assistance and support of the Soviet Union are a reliable guarantee of the successful advancement of the people of the SRV on the path to building a new society.

During the talks between Mikhail Sergeyvich Gorbachev, the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and Le Duan, the general secretary of the Central Committee of the CPV, in the course of the recent visit to our country of the party and government delegation of the SRV, it was confirmed that strengthening Soviet-Vietnamese friendship and cooperation is the principled course of the Soviet Union and the SRV. Satisfaction was expressed in the progress of the implementation of the long-term program of the development of the bilateral economic, scientific,and technological cooperation.

I had a chance to see Vietnam during both years of war and days of peace and to meet the veterans of the August revolution. I recall the words of (?Shan Zi Hing), revolution veteran and the first Hanoi mayor after the Republic was declared: All of us, the old and the young ones, are united by the struggle for the common cause, which was begun by the August revolution. The unfading light of the Great October was lighting up our path to victory in the August of 1945."

KAYSONE PHOMVIHAN TO VISIT USSR 'END OF AUGUST'

LD181103 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1030 GMT 18 Aug 85

[Text] At the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the USSR Council of Ministers, Kaysone Phomvihan, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party and chairman of the Lao Council of Ministers, will pay a friendly working visit to the Soviet Union at the end of August 1985.

RESUMPTION OF SOVIET, BULGARIAN TIES RECALLED

PM161051 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Aug 85 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Congratulatory Telegrams"]

[Text] The USSR and Bulgarian Foreign Ministries have exchanged congratulatory telegrams in connection with the 40th anniversary of the reestablishment of diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and Bulgaria.

The USSR Foreign Ministry telegram notes that over the past 4 decades relations of a new type have taken shape between the USSR and Bulgaria characterized by complete equality, mutual respect, and fraternal solidarity. The belief was expressed that Soviet-Bulgarian relations, based on the unshakable principles of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism, will continue to strengthen and develop in the interests of the peoples of our countries and the entire socialist community and of the cause of peace and socialism.

The reestablishment of diplomatic relations, the Bulgarian Foreign Ministry telegram stresses, played an important part in the defense of Bulgaria's socialist gains, in safeguarding its state sovereignty, and in strengthening its international positions. It opened up broad prospects for the development and strengthening of friendship and cooperation between Bulgaria and the USSR and was a decisive factor in socialist Bulgaria's prosperity. Firm confidence was expressed that relations of fraternal friendship and comprehensive rapprochement between our countries will continue to strengthen and develop in the interests of the Bulgarian and Soviet peoples, the socialist community, and peace and social progress the world over.

BULGARIA'S TODOROV, DELEGATION VISIT LITHUANIA

LD181612 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1300 GMT 18 Aug 85

[Text] The delegation of the Bulgarian National Assembly headed by Todorov, member of the Politburo of the Bulgarian Communist Party Central Committee and chairman of the National Assembly, has been visiting Lithuania for 2 days. The guests visited the Supreme Soviet of the Lithuanian SSR. They were told about the widespread socialist competition of labor collectives to greet the 27th CPSU Congress in a worthy manner. The Bulgarian parliamentarians laid flowers at Lenin's memorial in Vilnius and visited the Lithuanian GRES in the city of Elektrenai. The delegation visited Kaunas and the collective farm of (Rityaushera) in Kedaynskiy Rayon.

SOKOLOV RECEIVES YUGOSLAV DEFENSE OFFICIAL

AU160907 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 2000 GMT 15 Aug 85

[Text] Marshal Sergey Sokolov, USSR minister of defense, has received in Moscow Lieutenant General Metodija Stefanovski, assistant federal secretary for national defense, who is paying a working visit to the Soviet Armed Forces. The talk pertained to the cooperation of the two countries' armies.

DPA: SOVIET SOLDIER REPORTEDLY SHOT IN GDR

LD181126 Hamburg DPA in German 1106 GMT 18 Aug 85

[Text] Berlin, 18 Aug (DPA) -- According to a report in BERLINER MORGENPOST a Soviet soldier was shot dead in Jena (Thuringia) while attempting to leave the GDR and return home on his own. According to the paper the incident, which occurred about 4 weeks ago, was reported by tourists.

It seems that the soldier had learned from his parents that his brother had been killed in Afghanistan. When he was refused permission to leave for home he left his unit together with his submachine gun and some 150 rounds of ammunition, taken a taxi, and later forced the taxi driver to leave his car. The taxi driver had reported the incident.

As a result, Soviet troops and GDR police had set up roadblocks, the paper reports. The fugitive Soviet soldier had tried in vain to break through the barricade with the taxi at the West Railroad station in Jena, whereupon he had hurled himself with his submachine gun out of the car. But before he was able to get up, he was hit by some 80 shots. The walls of a nearby pharmacist's shop still bear the effects of the shots, the tourists reported.

BRIEFS

BULGARIAN CONSUL IN ODESSA -- On 5 August, Titarenko, Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo member and second secretary, received Trunkov, consul general of the People's Republic of Bulgaria in Odessa, in connection with the latter's taking up his mission. Merkulov, department chief in the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee, participated in a conversation that was held in a warm and friendly atmosphere. [Text] [Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 1445 GMT 5 Aug 85 UA]

YOUTH AGREEMENT SIGNED -- Jaroslav Jeneral, chairman of the Central Committee of the Socialist Youth Union, and Viktor Mishin, first secretary of the Komsomol Central Committee, signed on 27 July in Moscow the program of all-round cooperation of the two countries' youth organizations for the years 1986-90. The document stresses the increase of mutual collaboration in the international education of youth, the development of contacts between basic organizations, and the exchange of experience in youth participation in the acceleration of scientific-technical progress. [Summary] [Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 29 Jul 85 p 4 AU]

FINNISH DEFENSE MINISTER VISITS MOSCOW

LD190840 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0820 GMT 19 Aug 85

[Text] Moscow, 19 Aug (TASS) -- Veikko Pihlajamaki, minister of defense of the Republic of Finland, has arrived in Moscow on an official visit at the invitation of Marshal of the Soviet Union Sergey Sokolov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, and minister of defense of the USSR.

FRG HOSTS 2-DAY SDI TREATY CONFERENCE

LD171346 Moscow TASS in English 1322 GMT 17 Aug 85

[Text] Bonn, August 17 TASS -- The cabinet of Helmut Kohl is taking a course towards drawing West German companies and research institutions into the realization of the U.S. military space programme. This is evidenced by a two-day conference which has been held here by representatives of the government of the FRG as well as of leading companies and research institutes. Concrete matters aimed at concluding an inter-governmental treaty with the United States on the FRG's participation in Reagan's notorious "star wars" programme were being worked out during the conference.

Although official spokesmen maintain that the government will not be in a hurry to make a final decision, it is pointed out here: certain circles in the ruling top leadership and economic spheres seek to speed up the adoption of a final decision. It has already been announced that early in September this year a delegation of high-ranking representatives of the government and industry will go to Washington in order to find out on the spot conditions for the FRG's participation in the implementation of the "star wars" plans.

Such a hurry is explained by Bonn's endeavour to fully side with Washington before the start of the upcoming Soviet-U.S. summit meeting in Geneva and to support the stand of the rabid advocates of militarization of outer space in the Washington administration.

PLO'S SALAH KHALAF ARRIVES IN MOSCOW 16 AUGUST

AU161116 Paris AFP in English 1110 GMT 16 Aug 85

[Text] Moscow, Aug 16 (AFP) -- The PLO's second-ranking official, Abu Iyad, arrived here today for a four-day visit in which he was expected to put forward the Palestinian view on the recent Arab summit in Morocco.

Abu Iyad, a nom de guerre for Salah Khalaf, is the deputy to Yasir 'Arafat in Fatah, the biggest grouping in the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Aides in Tunis said the invitation had come from the Communist Party.

Western diplomats here said his visit would present an opportunity to put forward the Palestinian view on the Casablanca summit, and particularly on the Jordanian-Palestinian accord signed last February in Amman.

The Soviet press has not commented on the results of the Casablanca summit, but it is almost certain that the Soviet Union disapproves.

The party newspaper PRAVDA today published without comment an article by the Lebanese Communist Party, which referred to the conference as "a dangerous attempt to protect the Amman accord" and which denounced U.S. efforts to "isolate Syria and other progressive forces in the Arab world."

The Soviet Union has been openly critical of the Amman accord and the stance adopted by Jordan and the PLO.

Meanwhile in Amman, a Palestinian official said today that PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat had met the Soviet ambassador to Jordan, Vladimir Vodiakhin, yesterday and given him a message for the Soviet leadership.

It was thought likely that the message related to the visit by U.S. assistant secretary for Near East affairs, Richard Murphy.

SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA ON LEBANON STRIFE, AMMAN ACCORD

PM161125 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 15 Aug 85 First Edition p 3

[Rafail Moseyev article: "Lebanon: Those Who Prosper in the Flames of Internecine Strife"]

[Excerpts] Lebanon continues to live in an atmosphere of extreme tension. Despite the efforts of the national unity government headed by R. Karami and the recently created national alliance front, which united around 15 progressive and patriotic parties and organizations (including Progressive Socialist Party, the "Amal" movement, and the Lebanese Communist Party), calm has not yet been restored to the country, much less to the capital.

Bloody shootouts and artillery duels are still breaking out in Beirut. The city remains divided into two sectors. Communication between them is effected via control posts and is periodically interrupted by armed clashes. Furthermore, it is not only the capital that is split but the whole country that is divided into zones. In each zone real power belongs to military formations of one religious-communal grouping or another.

The country's disunity and the situation inflamed to the limit by internal discord benefit only the Lebanese people's enemies.

This situation serves the interests of Israel's Zionist circles, which, while encroaching on Lebanon's sovereignty and independence, are deliberately fanning the flames of internecine strife.

Everyone knows that Tel Aviv is backed by the United States which, while encouraging in every way the expansionist aspirations of its "strategic" ally, has not abandoned the idea of new intervention against Lebanon. This was confirmed in particular by Washington's unseemly actions over the hijacking of the U.S. Boeing by Shi'ite extremists. In a clear attempt to pressure the Lebanese authorities, who had nothing to do with the aircraft's seizure, the U.S. Administration announced a boycott of Beirut Airport and the Lebanese airline. This perfidious action was condemned throughout the world. It was resolutely rebuffed in the Arab countries, which justly viewed the U.S. boycott as a flagrant show of force and support for Tel Aviv's expansionist course.

While trying to undermine the Lebanese economy and inflame internal political contradictions, Tel Aviv's ringleaders and their overseas protectors cannot, of course, ignore the fact that the worsening situation in Lebanon is having a harmful effect on the prospects for eliminating the explosive situation in the Near East as a whole. The solution to the Lebanon problem depends very much on a successful settlement of the Near East problem and above all of the pivotal Palestinian question. Meanwhile, the United States and Israel have again stepped up the efforts aimed at reviving the Camp David accords, that is, at "settling" the Near East crisis by separate deals. Unfortunately, the recent extraordinary conference of certain Arab heads of state and government in Morocco does not help to strengthen unity in inter-Arab circles. The Arab press believes that this meeting is essentially aimed at revising the decisions made by the Arabs in Fez in 1982. The so-called Amman accord on the "framework of joint action" signed at the beginning of this year between King Husayn of Jordan and Y. 'Arafat is being offered as a "solution" to the problem.

According to Syria's AL-THAWRAH, this document pushes the Arabs toward separate talks aimed at depriving the Palestinian Arab people of their legitimate rights, including the right to self-determination and the creation of an independent state. In trying to bring a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation and Israel to the negotiating table, the United States is hoping to achieve its political, economic, and military aims in the region and subordinate the Near East settlement process completely to U.S.-Israeli plans.

The progressive forces of the Arab East have sharply criticized the Amman accord. The press in Damascus, Beirut, Kuwait, and a number of other capitals unanimously note that the Amman accord, widely publicized in the West, effectively negates the path of collective search for the restoration of peace in the Near East. It rejects the idea supported by most countries in the world of convening an international conference involving all the interested sides and above all the PLO, the Palestinians' sole legitimate representative.

TASS ON U.S. 'FRANTIC ACTIVITY' IN MIDDLE EAST

LD161604 Moscow TASS in English 1511 GMT 16 Aug 85

[Text] Moscow, Aug 16 (TASS) -- By TASS political news analyst Boris Shabayev:

Observer attention is riveted once again to Washington's frantic activity in the Middle East.

Its numerous emissaries left for the capitals of several Arab states and, naturally, to Tel Aviv. Many Western papers note the haste with which the White House is seeking to push through its option of Middle East "settlement."

The option itself presents no secret whatsoever. The United States is striving to extract maximum profit from the so-called Amman accord and strike on its basis a new separate deal patterned on Camp David. This time, the effort will involve Jordan and some "Palestinian representatives" who not only were picked by Washington, but also reside in the United States.

If one is to believe the reports about "delicate", as the Paris LA LIBERATION put it, talks currently being conducted in the Middle East by U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy, the bargaining seems to be focusing on the issue of the line-up of a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation with which Washington could start a "dialogue."

This is, in fact, a strategem designed to divert attention from the anti-Palestinian essence of the American plan. And its essence is really such. It is not accidental that the Amman accord was assessed by Arab circles as capitulatory, erasing actually the issue of the establishment of an independent Palestinian state and removing the PLO from participation in the shaping of the future of the Arab Palestinian people.

Observers point to an obvious interrelationship between the current U.S. "diplomatic offensive" in the Middle East and the recent conference of several Arab countries in Casablanca. The attempt, dangerous albeit reticent, made at the conference with a view to providing the Amman agreement with "Arab" backing was assessed by Washington as propitious for invigorating its efforts directed at undermining the struggle of the Arab peoples of Palestine and Lebanon against Israeli expansion, at isolating Syria and other progressive forces of the Arab world.

In connection with Murphy's current mission in the Middle East, the Western press writes much about Tel Aviv's opposition to any meetings between the White House emissary and a "Jordanian-Palestinian delegation." It is not the first time when clamour around "contradictions" between the "strategic allies" is used as a means of blackmail aimed at forcing the Arabs to make concessions. Undoubtedly, the trick pursues a similar objective this time as well. This in no way rules out Israel's aspiration to secure a larger piece of the pie for itself through pressure on its American ally, should the jointly contemplated anti-Arab action work.

S. AFRICAN PRESIDENT'S DURBAN SPEECH CRITICIZED

Botha 'Gambling on Force'

LD161502 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1425 GMT 16 Aug 85

[Text] Harare, 16 Aug (TASS) -- In "resolving" the problems of the country, the racist South African regime is gambling primarily on force. This has been confirmed by President Pieter Botha's speech in Durban at a conference of the National Party organization in Natal. The essence of his speech, which has been widely publicized in the West as a "reform speech," boils down to the fact that Pretoria does not intend to abolish the apartheid system and establish true democracy and equality in South Africa.

Botha asserted that there is supposedly "no alternative" to apartheid. To renounce it, he said, would mean "taking the path of suicide." The ringleader of the racists rejected the very idea of introducing general franchise and the participation of Africans in running the state. No "reasonable" person, he cynically stated, would accept South Africa being turned into a unitary state with elections on the principle of "one man, one vote." "If South Africa does not remain white," he said menacingly, "the country will lose all influence, and sink in poverty, disorder, and chaos." Reaffirming his adherence to the maintenance of the system of Bantustans, Botha totally avoided the question of ending the separate residence of racial groups, and segregation in the sphere of education, sport, and other services.

The president stressed that Pretoria will continue to suppress in the harshest manner any protests by apartheid opponents. He refused to end the state of emergency, and endeavored to present the unprecedented anti-racist strife that has gripped South Africa as the work of "communist agents." Botha stated that Nelson Mandela, the leader of the African National Congress (ANC), will not be released unless he ceases to struggle against apartheid.

Apartheid to Continue

LD161927 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 16 Aug 85

[Commentary by political observer Bronislav Myakota]

[Text] The Western press has written much recently about the apartheid regime being on the threshold of great changes, and that at the forthcoming annual congress of the ruling Nationalist Party of the Republic of South Africa [RSA], President Botha will declare new reforms. And now Pieter Botha, the leader of racists, made a speech in Durban about reforms. From his speech, it became clear that all the talk about changes was necessary to the racists and their Western patrons only to calm the international public and take the heat out of the demonstrations of protest both in the RSA and outside its borders.

The speech of Botha shows that the racist regime does not intend to make any concessions to the African majority in the country, but will instead continue to carry out the criminal apartheid policy. The RSA president flatly rejected the idea of introducing universal suffrage rights and involving the native inhabitants of the country in governing the state. Here Botha resorted to the old argument of the supporters of race segregation. He declared that granting rights to Africans will supposedly bring the country into chaos and poverty. As far as one of the most repulsive manifestations of apartheid, the so-called pass laws, is concerned, Botha admitted that this law is already out of fashion and that it costs a lot to the state. Again, he only promised that a governmental commission will present a report about possible changes in the law. So, the RSA president's speech has shown that the racists, as before, count on brute force.

This is also confirmed by the introduction of a curfew in the African ghettos of the RSA. Now the declaration of the White House representative that Washington is striving for the quickest way to restore order in the RSA is seen in a new light. Recently, a certain Robert Brown, a retired colonel of the Green Berets, was sent there. Brown became sadly famous for his brutal crimes as long ago as Vietnam. Now he is leading one of the largest sabotage and subversion centers in the United States and he combines this with being an editor of the monthly magazine SOLDIER OF FORTUNE. According to the NEWSWEEK report, Brown rigorously fulfills CIA orders. In the course of his secret visit to the RSA, he personally tested a machine-gun of a new design that was constructed for the South African Armed Forces and police units.

News has filtered into the press that an emissary of the United States espionage department was discussing with the RSA the question of the creation of special units of hired murderers, similar to those which already act in Namibia, occupied by the racists. It is planned to entrust to them the most bloody operations against the South African fighters against apartheid, the physical destruction of their leaders, and also diversion sorties on the territory of independent African states. In truth, this is what the restoration of order in the RSA looks like for the White House representative who recently expressed a desire in this regard.

Western Support Condemned

LD161531 Moscow World Service in English 1310 GMT 16 Aug 85

[From the "News and Views" program]

[Text] The South African President Pieter Botha, speaking in Durban on Thursday, rejected any idea of apartheid reform. On the same day, the state of emergency laws were extended to new areas of the country. A curfew has been introduced in several black townships. Our commentator Aleksandr Volkov makes these remarks:

Everything indicates that Pretoria again banks on force. The constitutional reforms President Botha had promised the Africans, reforms the Western press had had so much to say about, were nothing more than a propaganda trick.

A statement by the South African ambassador in Washington Beukes makes it plain that the purpose of the talk of reform was to help the U.S. Administration break out of the isolation in which it had found itself in its own country and on the international scene, because of what it calls its policy of constructive engagement in racist South Africa. Ostensibly, the policy aims at improving apartheid, but in fact it helps Washington to strengthen its political positions in southern Africa and to protect the interests of the multinational corporations operating there.

By taking this hypocritical attitude, officials in Washington and leaders of some other Western countries are preventing the international community of nations from taking effective measures to restrain the South African racists. These leaders, therefore, share the responsibility for the racist crimes in that country. The point was stressed at an emergency meeting of the United Nations special committee against apartheid and by many observers.

The Pretoria regime is waging a veritable war against the people of southern Africa. Raids on black townships, arson perpetrated by police agents, the killing of opponents of apartheid, and mass arrests have become a daily occurrence. Not even children are spared.

This is the picture of racism in action. The apartheid regime, which focuses all power in the hands of the white minority while reducing the nonwhites -- that is, three-fourths of the country's population -- to the position of slaves, constitutes a crime against humanity. We all know what comes of the policy of supremacy of one race and the inadequacy of other nations. There have been precedents in history. Take the fascists who killed off dozens of millions of people. Today their methods are being used by the South African racists.

The Soviet Union condemns the NATO countries for giving the racists military and political support. It condemns the United States for cooperating with the Pretoria regime and for trying to break the political isolation around South Africa. The USSR stands solidly behind the blacks in their fight for a free and democratic South Africa. It demands strict observance of the resolutions passed by the U.N. Security Council. One such resolution adopted on 26 July of this year insists that the government in Pretoria should end violence and reprisals against opponents of apartheid, lift the state of emergency, and release all political prisoners at once.

Western Duplicity at UN

LD181546 Moscow in English to Africa 2000 GMT 17 Aug 85

[Text] South Africa's President, P.W. Botha, speaking in Durban, yet again rejected outright the possibility of ending apartheid. Our commentary is by observer Vladimir Petrov and this is what he writes.

The black African population, the country's real master, will not receive any elementary civil rights. Mr Botha spurned the principle of general election rights for the black majority. As in the past a black African will be an alien in his own land. Yet again he has been denied the right to be a full citizen of his land. And these will not be even scanty political reforms, as predicted so widely on the eve of Botha's so-called historical speech.

Mr Botha's speech in Durban can indeed go down as historical but in the sense that it's an example of hypocrisy and cynicism and it could also be the last in the history of the inhuman system. After all, the struggle against apartheid is intensifying from day to day. The numerous killings by the racists already failed to intimidate the population. On the contrary, they intensify the anger against the oppressors and executioners. The situation that's developing in the country reminds one of a powder keg ready to explode from the flame that's engulfing it and the racist leaders cannot fail to understand this.

So why then do they reject even the possibility of basic changes, and this at a time when changes are demanded not only by the country's indigenous inhabitants but also by an increasing number of countries and peoples? Can the explanation of this rejection be that the racists fail to grasp the situation and are politically shortsighted? Rather it's still a calculation, they hope first and foremost that this time, just as repeatedly in the past, the longtime benefactors will save the racists. This hope is pinned on the United States and other NATO countries. In words they (?flay) apartheid and its crimes, but in fact are preventing the adoption of effective measures to curb the racists. That position of duplicity can particularly be well [word indistinct] from their maneuvers at the United Nations. Thus, at the recent meeting of the Security Council it is precisely the United States and Britain who prevented the introduction against South Africa of comprehensive sanctions, as envisaged by section seven of the UN Charter.

The world public's reaction to P.W. Botha's speech was that of resolute condemnation of the new maneuvers of the apartheid regime, which popular wrath has put on the verge of collapse.

Only the U.S. Administration, judging from the statement of the President's national security adviser, Robert McFarlane, gave those maneuvers a positive appraisal. Mr McFarlane described Botha's speech as an important step; that can apparently be understood as the United States intention to continue its line of supporting the South African racists.

U.S. To Blame for Repression

MB180826 Moscow in Zulu to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 16 Aug 85

[Station commentary]

[Text] What is supporting the speech made by the South African state president, Pieter Botha, on Thursday to the Natal National Party Congress? Speaking in Durban, Botha declared his intent to perpetuate apartheid. He fully supports the state of emergency laws that are being extended to new areas in South Africa. In many black areas, the ghettos, curfews have been imposed. Our news analyst, Aleksandr Volkov, comments:

Once again, the clenched iron fist is swaying in the air. What exactly has happened to the constitution and the reforms that President Botha promised the blacks when he held a news conference with the Western journalists? That was just a bluff, as were the talks the South African ambassador in Washington held in connection with the effect U.S. Government assistance has on South Africa and the rest of the region. Politically, this is seen as cooperation with the racist South African Government.

Washington still stresses that this is not cooperation at all, but that the U.S. is only trying to improve the situation in racist South Africa. U.S. political actions in South Africa are geared toward the economic gain of U.S. multinational companies operating in South Africa. This stance by Washington and the other Western leaders has prevented the imposition of economic sanctions against South Africa. Thus, the oppression and harassment of the blacks by the racist South African Government is blamed entirely on the U.S. This was noted at the conference of the United Nations special committee against apartheid, and despite that, the U.S. is adamant in its ties with apartheid in South Africa.

The South African Government has declared war against the blacks in South Africa. The order of the day is the burning of houses in the African ghettos by police surrogates, and the rampant clandestine killing of the opponents of apartheid, who are regarded as subhuman material. Not even children are spared from these incidents.

The racist government has the interest of whites at heart, but the blacks, who constitute 75 percent of the entire population, are legally enslaved to the reserves. The atrocities are caused by the government of the day, which is elected by the whites, for the whites. Notwithstanding the horrors voiced by fascists in the past, South Africa is today applying modern, refined fascist methods to the benefit of the racists.

The government of the USSR condemns the weapons assistance provided to the racist government by members of NATO, the cooperation between America and Pretoria, and attempts by America to block the imposition of economic sanctions against South Africa. The USSR expresses sympathy with the blacks in their fight for liberation.

It also calls for the implementation of the resolution taken at the United Nations on 26 July 1985, which calls for the Pretoria regime to end its oppression of those opposed to its apartheid, calls for the lifting of the state of emergency, and for the release of all political prisoners.

Roelof Botha Remarks 'Absurd'

LD171659 Moscow TASS in English 1630 GMT 17 Aug 85

[Text] Moscow, Aug 17 (TASS) -- By TASS political news analyst Sergey Kulik.

Faced with a sharp criticism in the West of their obstinate policy of apartheid, leaders of the Pretoria regime came out lately with a series of statements designed to justify their own intractability. The highlight of their declarations is the intimidation of American and Western European investors with "chaos and ruin" should apartheid become abolished and the African majority come to power after gaining the right to vote in their own country.

Emphasizing the "black threat," South Africa's Foreign Minister Roelof Botha went as far as telling the French Antenne-2 television network that the Pretoria government would like to involve the black population in governing the country, but this is being hampered by the blacks themselves. They seek to get rid of South Africa's white residents, rather than rule together with them, the minister claimed.

There is nothing more absurd than accuse [as received] anti-apartheid fighters in South Africa of "black racism." One of the basic provisions of the Freedom Charter -- the programme document adopted by the national liberation movement of South African patriots way back in 1955 -- says that South Africa should belong to all who live there. Once the inhuman apartheid system is dismantled and a truly democratic state is created in South Africa, the black majority is not going to pursue "a policy of revenge" with regard to the white minority now wielding power.

The establishment in 1983 of a United Democratic Front (UDF) is a graphic example of the application of the principle of multiracial cooperation in the specific conditions of South Africa. The UDF groups more than 700 diverse workers. Youth, women's farmers and religious organizations, blacks and whites, Asians and coloureds. One of its chief tasks is to enable representatives of different races to conduct joint actions both on the broad political scene and in the trade union movement. One can talk now about the creation in South Africa of a united anti-racialist front which counterposed its course of multiracial cooperation to the official policy of the "separate development" of the races.

Indeed, if seeds of mistrust and hostility are being sown with regard to a certain part of South Africa's white community, which is being incited to a sanguinary civil war, it is being done by the present Pretoria rulers who have no choice for the black majority, but armed struggle for their rights.

U.S., UK Opinions Cited

LD161639 Moscow TASS in English 1611 GMT 16 Aug 85

[Text] Lusaka, Aug 16 (TASS) -- P.W. Botha's policy speech, made in Durban on Thursday, shows that apartheid remains unchanged, a spokesman for the African National Congress (ANC) of South Africa has declared here. That is why, he said, the struggle against the inhuman system will continue.

The ANC called on the people to destroy the foundations of apartheid and make the country ungovernable for the racists.

Washington, August 16 TASS -- The White House's positive assessment of the South African president's speech was in striking contrast with universally expressed indignation.

Robert McFarlane, the U.S. President's national security adviser, described it as "an important statement." He discovered in the speech of the chief of the racists what it simply does not contain -- "new ideas" and "steps" that "will advance the end of apartheid." McFarlane called on the South African blacks to have faith in the sincerety of the intentions displayed by the racists.

He in fact demanded that the world community end the campaign for isolating South Africa, saying that third parties should not prescribe how to eradicate apartheid. The President's adviser confirmed that Ronald Reagan remains committed to the policy of "constructive engagement" with South Africa.

While openly siding with the racists, the White House finds itself in ever greater isolation in the United States itself. Unless the administration alters its stance, it will share with Pretoria the responsibility for the bloodshed in South Africa, said Democratic Congressman Mickey Leland. "Constructive engagement" with racism became totally unacceptable, said Senator Edward Kennedy. Botha, he pointed out, dashed all real hope that the South African Government would be ready to change its racist ways. The United States should immediately impose sanctions against Pretoria, said Randall Robinson, executive director of the public organization Transafrica.

Backing the cruelest regime in the world along state and private channels, he said, the United States became its chief support. South Africa receives 44 percent of oil and 70 percent of computers from the United States. Only by denying the racists this aid, is it possible to make them sit down at the negotiating table.

London, August 16 TASS -- The British Government said that it was "disappointed" with Botha's speech. However, according to a Foreign Office spokesman, the only thing which London did not like was the lack of specifics in the South African president's remarks. At the same time, the Tory government did not wish to alter its obstructionist stand on the issue of sanctions against South Africa.

According to a REUTER report, the South African rand dropped to a record low at the Johannesburg money market.

South African Reaction Noted

LD171744 Moscow TASS in English 1641 GMT 17 Aug 85

[Text] Harare, August 17 TASS -- There are fierce clashes with police and troops of the Pretoria racist regime in most African ghettoes of the Republic of South Africa. At Orlando and Diepklof demonstrators pelted police armoured personnel carriers with stones and bottles with incendiary mixture. Disturbances continue for over a week in East London's suburb Dunkan. According to official information, 20 Africans were killed there in recent days. The bullets of policemen and soldiers claimed 50 lives in the area in the past week.

Manifestations of protest are mounting in Soweto. Last night, the population of the ghetto went into the streets in protest against the fact that the curfew was clamped down on the township. Thousands of Africans chanted: "down with apartheid", "down with the Army and police from the African suburbs". The punitive forces made an attempt to disperse the demonstrators by the use of arms. One African was run over by an armoured carrier. But the authorities were unable to disperse the demonstrators. The curfew is boycotted all over the country.

A statement of the head of the Pretoria regime Botha who confirmed the intention of the regime to continue the apartheid policies evoked indignation in all the sections of the South African society. People of different convictions, of different colour of skin, including whites are profoundly disappointed, noted the general secretary of the Council of Churches of the Republic of South Africa Beyers Naude. The Johannesburg weekly BUSINESS DAY demanded that Botha resign. Most of businessmen openly express dissatisfaction with the stand of the authorities, the British Broadcasting Corporation reports.

The authorities are blocking all the ways to peaceful solution of the problems of South Africa, said Bishop Desmond Tutu. What peaceful means can there be when African children are killed every day. Botha intends to continue the enslavement of the African population with the backing of the USA, Britain and the FRG, he stressed.

The racist clique is rejecting any proposals for the settlement of the problems of South africa, said President of the African National Congress (ANC) of South Africa Oliver Tambo. He said that Botha reaffirmed the course at Bantustanisation and splitting of the country, at denying the African majority the fundamental rights. In these conditions the African National Congress has no choice but to continue stepping up the armed struggle until the barbarous regime is eliminated.

Oliver Tambo stressed that it is a duty of sane white residents of South Africa to join actively in the protests against apartheid. He urged the international community to sever all ties with Pretoria, to impose effective economic sanctions on it.

COMMENTATOR VIEWS 'CABANAS-85' IN HONDURAS

LD171549 Moscow World Service in English 1310 GMT 17 Aug 85

[Text] For the 3d month, the military exercise code-named "Cabanas-85" has been under way in Honduras in the immediate proximity of the Nicaraguan borders. Taking part are about 5,000 American and Honduran troops. Our observer Leonid Levchenko comments.

The exercise is one of the series of maneuvers conducted by the Pentagon in Central America. The scenarios of the games worked out by the Pentagon provide for practicing various offensive operations that involve bombers and heavy artillery, seaborne and special units operations. These special troops specialize in putting down the seats of guerrilla resistance. Senior U.S. military officials have long stopped making it a secret that the maneuvers have been staged to rehearse an armed intervention against Nicaragua. All the more so, in June this year the American Congress gave a green light to the administration to send troops to Nicaragua, as it alleged, under certain circumstances. And if Washington has so far not risked to stage open intervention, it's out of fear that it would be resolutely denounced the world over.

President Daniel Ortega of Nicaragua has called the Contadora Group's peaceful efforts a major factor containing Washington's militaristic aspirations. These efforts are supported throughout Latin America. In this situation Washington has been plotting secret operations against Nicaragua and has been using for sabotage and terrorist activity mercenaries from among the punitive forces of the former dictator Somoza, deposed by the Nicaraguan people.

There are facts of Washington's direct involvement in coordinating actions carried out by terrorists trying to bring down the legitimately elected Government of Nicaragua. Acting as the main link in these efforts has been Lieutenant-Colonel Oliver North, a National Security Council official whom THE WASHINGTON POST has called a confidential person of the U.S. President's National Security Adviser, Robert McFarlane. According to UPI reports, high-ranking White House officials have acknowledged that the National Security Council helped Nicaraguan Contras obtain large sums of money from so-called private organizations.

Undisguised interference in Nicaragua's affairs and Washington's policy of state terrorism against that sovereign nation has been increasingly condemned throughout the world, including the United States.

IMPLICATIONS OF CONTADORA GROUP MEETING OBSERVED

LD170300 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 16 Aug 85

[Text] As we have already reported, the foreign ministers of the Latin American countries, that are members of the Contadora Group and its support group, will meet next week in the Colombian city of Cartagena. Prominent state and political figures of Latin America, the PRENSA LATINA agency reports, express confidence that this meeting will make an important contribution to the cause of peace and stability in Central America and will help to avoid the expansion of military conflict in the region. Here is Vitaliy Sobolev with the latest news commentary.

The initiative of the Contodora Four has been given further development. Now eight countries of the Western Hemisphere will be dealing in earnest with the problem of a political settlement of Central American problems. Unfortunately, the need for extra support for the Contadora process still exists, because the United States and its local stooges are putting ever newer obstacles in its path. Let us take two features pointed out in the Peace Act elaborated by the Contadora Group. This demands the elimination of foreign military bases in the region and the withdrawal of foreign military advisers. Two policy lines on this question can be traced precisely. In agreement with Nicaragua, Cuba sent home 100 men from its staff. The United States has doubled the number of its advisers in El Salvador. As far as the American instructors of the Somocistas are concerned, the chief instructor, as it recently became clear, works on the U.S. National Security Council, whose members are the higher officials of the country. The status of this chief instructor is so high that it is causing envious grumblings among his junior colleagues in the CIA, who have told journalists that to cite one example, official aircraft for individuals should only be a prequisite of secretaries of state.

If we talk about foreign military bases in Central America, the United States is the only country that maintains them and continues the feverish construction of such bases in Honduras. This exacerbates the situation in the region, just like the published plan of the U.S. leadership to bring the number of their hirelings up to 350,000. To this end the CIA will, of course, have to conduct a mass recruitment in the dens of vice in Florida. But following Congress' allotment of a nice fat sum to the Somocistas, there can be no doubt that the smell of dollars will attract a good number of vermin of all sorts.

Latin America answers this obvious imperialistic pressure with a redoubling of its peace-loving efforts. Their significance, as Latin American state figures rightly note, is very great. One of the basic reasons why the U.S. leadership has thus far not fulfilled its burning desire to use its own military forces against Nicaragua is an apprehension of the political consequences. Washington has been forced to reckon with the opinion of Latin America. Practically all the region's countries have expressed individually their support for the Contadora Group more than once in the past. Now the adherents of intervention in Washington will have to deal with a united front of the most authoritative states in Latin America.

GORBACHEV VISITS CRIMEAN YOUNG PIONEERS CAMP

LD162020 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 16 Aug 85

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Comrades, at this moment, festivities devoted to the 12th World Festival of Youth and Students, the youth anniversary of the great victory, and the 60th anniversary of Artek, are taking place in the Artek All-Union Pioneer Camp named after Lenin, in the Crimea. Television cameras are set up at the camp's central stadium, where an international theatrical festival, All the Children of the Planet Are Friends, has started.

Over 4,500 children from all the union republics of our country and from almost 60 countries, as well as guests of honor, are in the stands. [video shows long shot of crowds in stadium; Gorbachev, with Raisa Gorbacheva slightly ahead of him, is shown descending steps] Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, has come to visit the Artek pioneers. He is warmly welcomed by the Soviet children and the young envoys from all continents. [video shows Gorbachev and wife moving through the crowd shaking hands with men and women, children in stands, long shots of the center of the stadium, where children stand with colored banners]

[Begin recording, unidentified child's voice] Respected comrades, dear children! Envoys from children's and Pioneers' organizations in 57 countries of the world are taking part in our festival. All the Children of the Planet Are Friends. Dear guests have come to visit us. We welcome Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, CPSU general secretary, who has come to see us in Artek. [appluase] [video shows medium shot of Gorbachev, with only his head visible, in middle of crowd, sitting next to Mishin] Foreign guests are also present at our festival. They include Comrade Georges Marchais, PCF general secretary, and Ignacio Gallego, general secretary of the Communist Party of Spain. [video shows Gorbachev, and wife, in middle of crowd, applauding heartily. As Marchais and Gallego are announced, the camera cuts to children running up from stadium with flowers. In a long shot, they are shown presenting flowers to Gorbachev and other officials, but not to Raisa. Gorbachev kisses a little girl] [end recording]

The children presented Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev and the festival's guests of honor with flowers. The festival's main theme is: The future is peace. The festival in the central stadium of the camp continues.

Further Coverage

LD172036 [Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 1500 GMT on 17 August carries a special video report, replacing the "Community" program, on the visit of Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, CPSU Central Committee general secretary, to the Crimean Artek All-Union Pioneer Camp named after Lenin, where a new monument to Lenin is dedicated. Gorbachev is seen getting outside of a black limousine, while his wife, Raisa, gets out of the other side. Gorbachev shakes hands with Mishin, first secretary of the Komsomol, and two other unidentified men.

Gorbachev and his entourage walk toward a wreath in front of the monument. Two Pioneers, with Gorbachev and entourage following behind them, pick up the wreath and deposit it at the foot of the momument.

Gorbachev lends a helping hand at the last stage. There is a brief shot of Gorbachev standing in front of Mishin, Raisa Gorbacheva, an unidentified girl, and two unidentified men who stand briefly at attention and bow their heads. Other people can be seen laying flowers in the background.

The camera now cuts to Gorbachev while the group is addressed by a little Pioneer girl who says: "We present you with a red Pioneer scarf." Gorbachev nods his head, the girl puts the scarf around his neck, and the entourage claps. Gorbachev gives the little girl a hug while she salutes and shakes hands with him. Another girl Pioneer presents him with a bunch of flowers. Gorbachev can be seen to exchange a few words with the group of youngsters. Gorbachev, says: "You see this was all begun, as they told me on the way here, at the instruction of Vladimir Ilich, and it is good that they opened it. Children! How difficult it was then, but nonetheless children were put first. Let's have a photograph taken! Over here! Well children, you have to find yourselves a little gap." Mishin says: "Yes so that you're visible." The Pioneers, Gorbachev, and his entourage pose for a photograph. Gorbachev says: "They're so serious, these children." The group breaks into laughter for the photograph. Gorbachev and his wife are in the center of the picture, with the little girl immediately in front of Raisa.

The next scene shows the song and dance festival being opened with delegations parading. A very large audience in an open air theater rises, clapping and staring, and the camera then shows Gorbachev, Raisa, the little girl, and Mishin, descending the stairway. They walk along the aisle, shaking hands with people in the audience on their right-hand side. Gorbachev, Raisa and Mishin are shown sitting down on their seats. The festival gets underway with a parade of youngsters from different countries and the hoisting of the Pioneer flag. Three closeups are shown of Gorbachev, Raisa, and Mishin, sitting in their seats clapping. Singers and dancers perform, followed by a fireworks display.

POLITBURO MEMBERS ATTEND AVIATION DAY DISPLAY

LD181105 Moscow TASS in English 1101 GMT 18 Aug 85

[Text] Moscow, August 18 TASS -- In aviation sports display at the Tushino airfield of the capital today became a vivid demonstration of the achievements of Soviet aircraft manufacture and of the high skill of air and glider pilots and parachutists. This year the air display is dedicated to the 40th anniversary of the Soviet people's victory in the Great Patriotic War. Thousands of Muscovites and guests of the capital gathered there on the occasion of Aviation Day, marked in the Soviet Union today.

Those present greeted with prolonged applause Geydar Aliyev, Vitaliy Vorotnikov, Viktor Grishin, Yegor Ligachev, Nikolay Ryzhkov, Viktor Chebrikov, Eduard Shevardnadze, Petr Demichev, Vasiliy Kuznetsov, Sergey Sokolov, Boris Yeltsin, Lev Zaykov, Mikhail Zimyanin, and Viktor Nikonov on the central tribune. The festival was also attended by Yakov Ryabov, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, by the heads of a number of ministries and departments, by prominent military leaders and by representatives of party, local-government and public organisations.

The air display was declared open by Admiral of the Fleet Georgiy Yegorov, chairman of the Central Committee of the Voluntary Society for Assisting the Army, Air Force and the Navy (DOSAAF) of the USSR.

The DOSAAF is now a mass defence organisation with a membership of 107 million people who are united in 361,000 primary organisations. DOSAAF has a responsible task -- to train worthy freshmen for the Soviet Armed Forces.

Those present watched formation flying of sports planes, helicopters and gliders, the unusual acrobatic jump "bookstand" formed in mid-air by four parachutists, trapeze artists' performances under five MI-2 helicopters, a group flying of motor delta-wing kites and a demonstration aerial "combat" between sports planes. The air display became a vivid illustration of the high skill of the sportsmen of the defence society and their constant readiness to join the ranks of the armed defenders of the socialist motherland.

AFP: 'REFORMER' GVISHIANI APPOINTED TO GOSPLAN

AU161518 Paris AFP in English 1511 GMT 16 Aug 85

[Text] Moscow, Aug 16 (AFP) -- An advocate of broad reforms of the Soviet economy has been named one of five first deputy heads of the State Planning Committee, officials here confirmed today.

Dzhermen Gvishiani, a 57-year-old nephew of former Premier Aleksey Kosygin, appeared to be another in a series of reform-minded younger men appointed to influential government posts by the new Soviet leader, Mikhail Gorbachev.

Prior to his appointment, which took place a month ago, Mr Gvishiani was a vice-minister of science and technology, according to officials on the planning committee, known as the Gosplan. Mr Gvishiani, a proponent of decentralization as a means to speed up modernization, will report to the Gosplan chief, Nikolay Baybakov, 74, who is considered by Western diplomats to be a staunch defender to centralized planning and a representative of the Brezhnev years.

Mr Baybakov had caused a stir two years ago today, a day after former leader Yuriy Andropov had urged "changes" that were not "half-measures," when he held a press conference to announce that the government would "perfect centralized planning."

SUPREME SOVIET LEADERS DISCUSS COMMUNICATIONS

LD161533 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1300 GMT 16 Aug 85

[Text] A joint session of the commissions on transport and communications of the Soviet of the Union and the Soviet of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet took place in the Kremlin. The question of the work of the USSR Ministry of Communications in expanding the network of enterprises for serving the population and for raising its quality, in the light of the demands of the CPSU Central Committee April 1985 Plenum, was discussed. The commissions deemed it expedient to present materials on the stated question to the review of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and to ask for a corresponding resolution to be adopted. Other questions were also reviewed. Taking part in the session were: Comrade Kuznetsov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; Comrade Yazkuliyev, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; Comrade Voss, chairman of the Soviet of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet; and leaders of a number of ministries and departments.

COAL SUPPLY OFFICIAL INTERVIEWED ON SHORTFALLS

LD181517 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0800 GMT 18 Aug 85

[From the "Time, Events, People" program; presenter unidentified]

[Text] The lessons of last winter, when the prolonged cold weather caught certain works, factories, and towns unaware, are still fresh in everyone's memory. Today, in every oblast and republic intensive work is under way to ensure that in the coming winter frost does not upset the working routine at enterprises or cause interruptions in urban transportation services, and that everyone's apartment is heated. One of the most urgent tasks in preparations for the winter, a task which must not be put off until a future date, is the creation of fuel supplies. Our special correspondent Aleksandr Belotserkovets has been talking to (Grigoriy Vasilyevich Apanasyenko), first deputy chief of the Main Directorate for Coal of the USSR State Committee for Material and Technical Supplies.

[Begin recording] [(Apanasyenko)] The main task, of course, is fuel supplies. Overall, the Ministry of Power and Electrification is getting satisfactory supplies. Things remain very difficult in many regions, however.

[Belotserkovets] Before talking to you, (Grigoriy Vasilyevich), I visited the USSR Ministry of the Coal Industry. I was told there that miners are fulfilling their plan, even overfulfilling it. In Neryungri, Karaganda, Krasnoyarsk Kray, the Donbass, and Kuzbass stocks are very high.

[(Apanasyenko)] That is true for the coal extraction plan. For instance this year the Kuznetsk Basin is actually even working a little more steadily than before as far as production is concerned. But the whole point is whether the haulage plan is being fulfilled. In the Kuzbass today there are more than 11 million metric tons of coal in storage. Individual enterprises, and particularly mines adjacent to Kiyzak station in the south of the Kuzbass, cannot in fact continue producing normally because there is nowhere to store the coal. More than 1 million tons of coal has accumulated at Kiyzak station alone. Meanwhile, consumers are waiting for it.

[Belotserkovets] So the cause, once again, is poor work.

[(Apanasyenko)] Yes, poor work by the Kemerovo railroad, and by the Ministry of Railways, in supplying empty freight cars to this railroad as required. Even this month -- (?you don't have to look far) -- they are already behind to the tune of 500,000 metric tons in the Kuzbass. This is more than the total amount owed by the whole country. Kuznetsk coal remains the coal in shortest supply for consumers in the RSFSR, East Kazakhstan, for ferrous metallurgy, power generation, and so on. In other words, the coal is there, but the consumers do not receive it. The result is shortages in the midst of abundance. The Ministry of Railways is aware of this. I cannot say that they are not adopting measures -- measures are of course being adopted. But in the situation today, when one and one-half months' work remains to establish stocks for the winter, these measures are obviously inadequate. In the Kuzbass today, a minimum of 450,000-480,000 metric tons of coal must be dispatched every day.

[Belotserkovets] Another matter which requires an immediate solution is the creation of fuel reserves for sale to the populations in towns and villages. I have in mind coal briquettes and high-grade coal.

[(Apanasyenko)] This is a separate problem, but it has to be discussed. We have not fulfilled the plan for these types of coal. This gives rise to numerous complaints from oblasts and working people. They are approaching winter and the municipal and public needs and market allocations are not provided. This concerns high-grade coal and Kuznetsk high-grade coal, processes at grading factories in Kuzbass. In point of fact, from January to June we did not receive 1.2 million metric tons of the promised high-grade fuel from Kuzbass. That is a very large volume; 76 percent of the overall planned amount. Naturally the consumers will not receive 1.2 million metric tons of high-grade coals for sale. Again we are up against the matter of the provision of freight cars.

[Belotserkovets] If the solution to these matters depends on those in charge at the Ministries of the Coal Industry and of Railways, there is also a major issue whose solution depends on each of us: fuel-saving, using every possible means. Today, the main way to create a stock of supplies is the thrifty use of the resources we have, those we have in the stocks of each of the oblasts. Unfortunately, the checks which our inspectorate and the bodies of the state committee are carrying out show that there are many reserves still in this area. This is a factor of great significance; indeed, one of the most important factors as far as the creation of a fuel reserve stock is concerned. [end recording]

[Presenter] We are waiting for the Ministry of Railways to inform our "Time, Events, People" program about measures that are being taken to accelerate deliveries of the most important cargoes to consumers. We are also awaiting an answer from the Ministry for the Coal Industry, which is not fulfilling its plan for the production of coal briquettes for heating housing in towns and villages. We will inform you of this in future editions of this program.

BRIEFS

NEW TRANSPORT DEVELOPMENTS — The auto plant in Tolyatti, on the Volga River, has started producing new electric cars. The plant, famous for its cars of the Lada series, is now turning out several models of electric cars, one of which, a pickup truck, carries a payload of 430 kg and in urban conditions covers up to 20 km without recharging batteries. [excerpt] [Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 17 Aug 85 LD] A new vessel, Ulyana Gromova, has joined the oil-tanker fleet of the Caspian maritime line. It was built in Volgograd and has a load capacity of over 4,500 metric tons. The vessel's shallow draft allows it to travel along internal waterways, too. [summary] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0430 GMT 18 Aug 85 LD] The Oleg Konstantinovich Antonov design bureau has built a new, wide-bodied, transport aircraft, the AN-124, which has been called Ruslan In a conversation with one of the plane's commanders, Vladimir Ivanovich (Terskiy) he says they will be interested in the plane's transport operations, noting that they have already received requests to transport large, heavyweight telemasts and quarry dumptrucks over long-distances in the Far East. [summary] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 18 Aug 85 LD]

AZERBAIJAN OIL WELLS -- The Apsheronskiy Rayon drilling administration's collective has fulfilled the targets of the 8-month plan. Using new technology, the workers have drilled 42,148 meters this year. A total of 448 meters of this figure is part of September's target. The collective has drilled 26 wells, instead of 21, in 7 months and has handed them over to the oil extraction workers. All the wells have been put into operation with good production results. [Text] [Baku Domestic Service in Azeri 0105 GMT 14 Aug 85 GF]

COSMONAUTS' ENVIRONMENTAL EXPERIMENTS REPORTED

LD161426 Moscow TASS in English 1126 GMT 16 Aug 85

[Text] Moscow, August 16 TASS -- Soviet cosmonauts Vladimir Dzhanibekov and Viktor Savinykh are successfully continuing the planned work on board the orbital complex "Salyut-7"--"Soyuz T-13"--"Cosmos-1669." In the past days they have carried out a large programme of geophysical studies in the interests of resolving various scientific and economic tasks.

The crew participated in the second stage of the complex experiment "Gyunesh-85," whose aim is a further perfection of the methods and means of prospecting for the earth's natural resources and study of the environment. In the course of the experiment were carried out in particular a spectrometry of oil and gas provinces of western Azerbaijan and the coastal zone of the Caspian Sea, photography was made of farmland within the confines of the southern slope of the greater Caucasus, optical characteristics of the atmosphere of the Caucasian-Caspian region were measured.

Within the framework of the UNESCO international programme "Man and Biosphere" the cosmonauts carried out a new series of observations and photography of biospheric pressures on the Soviet Union's territory. This research is aimed at resolving one of the most important objectives of the present -- ecological forecasting, nature protection and rational land tenure.

Today the crew of the complex are carrying out the "Cupola" experiment whose aim is to evaluate atmospheric pollution over big industrial centres by means of photographic, spectrometric and radiometric equipment. The experiment is being carried out in the area of the city of Zaporozhye.

In the course of the day a study of the mechanism of generation of high energy particles will be carried out in near-earth space under the programme of astrophysical research.

Cosmonauts Vladimir Dzhanibekov and Viktor Savinykh are healthy and feel well. The flight of the orbital research complex is proceeding normally.

TASS REPORTS ROUTINE COSMOS-1676 LAUNCHED

LD190640 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0625 GMT 19 Aug 85

[Text] Moscow, 19 Aug TASS -- a routine earth satellite Cosmos-1676 was launched in the Soviet Union on 16 August [as received] to continue the study of space. It has been put into orbit with the parameters: initial period of orbit -- 89.7 minutes; maximum distance from the earth's surface -- 371 km, minimum -- 178 km; inclination of orbit--67.2 degrees.

The apparatuses installed on the satellite are functioning normally.

6-POINT EARTHQUAKES REGISTERED IN TURKMENISTAN

LD161611 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1543 GMT 16 Aug 85

[Text] Ashkhabad, 16 August TASS -- An earthquake was registered in Turkmenistan at approximately 1447 Moscow time [1047 GMT]. According to data from the seismological station, the earthquake's epicenter was situated to the southeast of the republic's capital on the border with Iran, where the force of the tremor [tolchok] registered six to seven points. Inhabitants of Ashkhabad felt a tremor with a force of about four points. There were no deaths and there was no destruction.

BRIEFS

METEOROLOGICAL RESEARCH IN ATLANTIC -- Leningrad: The Professor Zubov, scientific and research vessel of the Arctic and Antarctic Institute, has departed for the central Atlantic. The program of work has been compiled by the State Committee for Hydrometeorology and Environmental Control. The main aim of research to be carried out is to send rocket probes into the upper layers of the atmosphere over the Atlantic. Launches of meteorological rockets loaded with scientific equipment will take place at several points in the Atlantic. It is thought that important data will be obtained about the structure and dynamics of the upper layers of the atmosphere and ionosphere. All scientific information will be swiftly processed on board the vessel, which has its own computer center. Researchers from Moscow and Leningrad specializing in atmospheric physics will be taking part in the expedition. [Text] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0800 GMT 15 Aug 85 LD]

OBSERVATION OF POLAR GAS WELLS -- Bad weather and distance will cease to be an obstacle in controlling the exploitation of polar gas wells. The 'Neftekhimavtomat', a whole mechanical complex developed by the Sumgait scientific research and project institute and recommended for serial production, will observe them. Electronics will serve several underground shafts at once. The control center, located as far as 30 km away, will receive information on the output of each well, and on the condition of the equipment and accident situations. This new complex, which has passed testing in Urengoy, is equipped with a cheaper and more reliable radio channel. [Summary] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1000 GMT 18 Aug 85 LD]